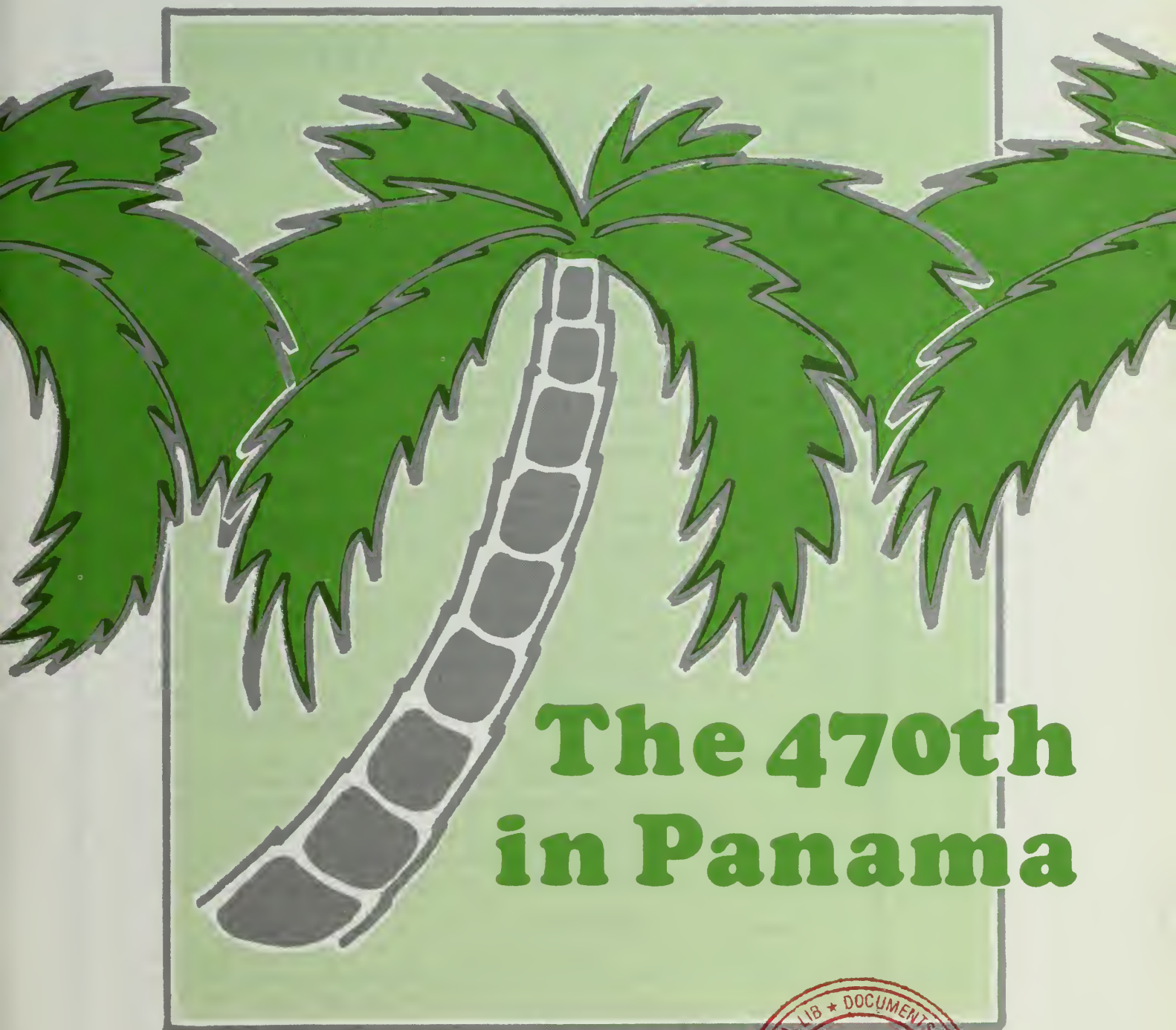
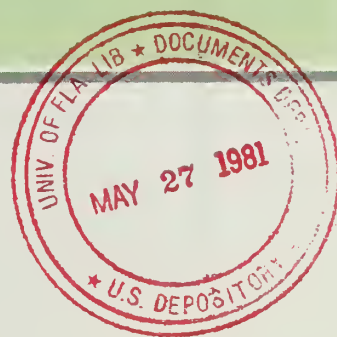


INSCOM
Journal



**The 470th
in Panama**

May '81



Welcome, General Stubblebine

Major General Albert N. Stubblebine III assumed command of INSCOM during a colorful ceremony at Arlington Hall Station May 7.

Nearly half of Gen. Stubblebine's career has been spent in military intelligence assignments. These include his command of the 902nd Military Intelligence Group at Fort Meade from July 1974 until January 1976.

He has enjoyed a long and distinguished military career, beginning with his graduation from the U.S. Military Academy in 1952 with a bachelor of science degree in engineering.

His military education also includes the Armor School, basic and advanced courses, Command and General Staff School and, most recently, the National War College in 1971. In 1961 he earned a master of arts degree in chemical engineering from Columbia University in New York.

The INSCOM family proudly welcomes General and Mrs. Stubblebine to the command, with a promise of continuing loyalty, support and dedication of skills that has been the hallmark of both its military and its civilian members since the command's inception.

Working together, we will create even greater standards of excellence in achieving the vital mission with which INSCOM has been entrusted.

INSCOM *Journal*

COMMANDER

Maj.Gen. Albert N. Stubblebine, III

DEPUTY COMMANDER

INTELLIGENCE

Brig.Gen. Thomas J. Flynn

DEPUTY COMMANDER

SUPPORT

Brig.Gen. John A. Smith

COMMAND SERGEANT MAJOR

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The 470th MI Group in Panama

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Alvarez wins 165th Soldier of Year



Sgt. Alvarez

66TH MI GP, Germany—Sgt. Michael R. Alvarez, assigned to the Frankfurt Field Office, 165th MI Bn., has been named 1980 Battalion Soldier of the Year.

Alvarez, son of an Air Force master sergeant, had the opportunity to live in many states of the U.S. and several foreign countries. He graduated from Wolforth High School, Texas, and continued his civilian education at the Fayetteville Technical Institute in North Carolina and the University of Maryland in Frankfurt. He entered the Army in September 1975 under the Delayed Entry Program, beginning active duty in June 1976.

Alvarez was trained as an airborne infantryman and served in the 82nd Airborne Division, Fort Bragg, N.C., until 1979. During his assignment with the 82nd, he attended numerous military courses, to include Basic and Primary Noncommissioned Officers Courses, and was selected several times as both company and battalion soldier of the

month. While assigned to Fort Bragg, Alvarez met and married his wife, Demetria, daughter of an Army family.

Alvarez entered military intelligence under the BEAR program and was trained at the U.S. Army Intelligence Center and School, Fort Huachuca, Ariz. In May 1980 he was assigned to the Frankfurt Field Office where his duties include personnel security, and other types of investigations. He also serves as motor sergeant for the Frankfurt Field Office as an additional duty.

Alvarez and his wife make their home in Frankfurt. In his limited spare time, Alvarez and his wife enjoy being members of the battalion bowling league.

His awards for winning the battalion honor were a \$50 U.S. Savings Bond, a letter of commendation from the battalion commander, a four-day pass and travel to Berlin on the Berlin Orientation Tour in June.

Air Force medal for Army man

USAFS SAN ANTONIO, Texas—SSgt. Marvin H. Cox of this field station has been awarded the U.S. Air Force Commendation Medal by Maj. Gen. Doyle E. Larson, Commander, Electronic Security Command at Kelly AFB. The award recognized Cox's quick reaction to an electrical fire which threatened the lives of his 14 co-workers.

Shortly after Cox's shift began work, an electrical fire erupted that not only threatened the loss of electronic equipment and

facilities valued at many millions of dollars, but endangered the lives of the 14 Army and Air Force servicemembers. Cox's quick thinking, leadership and spontaneous reaction contained the emergency situation and averted a catastrophe that would have destroyed a major facility of the Consolidated Security Operations Center.

The medal presentation marked the first time in CSOC history that an Army member received the Air Force medal for distinctive service.



Training NCO Sp5 Rosa-Ramirez helps firer



Class in rifle assembly.

Photos by Sp5 Linda Lloyd

Torii food INSCOM's best

FIELD STATION OKINAWA, Japan—For the third year in a row the Torii Dining Facility has been chosen to represent INSCOM in the Small Dining Facility Category of the Connelly Competition.

Only the best dining facilities in the Army are selected to participate in this prestigious event, and only the best people can put a dining facility into the competition for three years in a row.

At Torii Station that group of people includes both civilian employees and military personnel. They work hard to serve each and every soldier, sailor, airman or Marine that walks through their lines the best meal possible.

Once each meal is served they begin to prepare not only the food but the dining facility for the next serving. They are just another reason Torii Station can be called the home of "The Best in the Business."

by SSgt. Michael Orendi

During January and February, soldiers of the 1st Battalion, CONUS Military Intelligence Group, underwent M16A1 training and qualifications for SQT purposes. Through heavy rains, winds at times in excess of 40 mph and foxholes with sometimes as much as 18 inches of water in them, 125 intrepid individuals from HHC, and A and B Companies successfully completed training.

Training began with weapons issue at 5:30 a.m. each of four days. By 6 a.m., range OICs 1st Lt. Jody Bradshaw and 2nd Lt. Brian Mallare began briefing and explaining the course of events for the day. Within the next two hours, classes were taught in nomenclature and operations of the M16A1 by SSgt. Billie Phillips, assembly and disassembly by SSgt. David Gentry, basic marksmanship fundamentals by SSgts. Thomas Krepsky and Michael Orendi and safety by 1st Lt. John Griffith.

By 8:30 a.m. individuals were on zero range, sighting in and making final adjustments to their weapons. After all adjustments were completed, firers were moved to the record range where they completed qualifica-

'Skill-ful' Qualification Test at CONUS MI Gp.

tion with the rifle in eight different phases.

SFC Steve Reynolds, range NCOIC, walked the firers through each of the eight phases and ensured smooth operations of the firing range. Final tally of score cards and administrative operations of the range were carried out by HHC's assistant training NCO, Sgt. Sherry Langlais.

Units

In all, 39 soldiers out of 125 qualified as experts with a high score of 75 out of a possible 80 being fired. The 1st Bn. plans to continue M16A1 qualification through April, with all soldiers from E-1 through E-7 participating.

Lt. Col. Kleb commands Russian Institute

GARMISCH, Germany—The Zugspitz, Germany's highest mountain, provided the backdrop for the U.S. Army Russian Institute's change-of-command ceremony in January. Lt. Col. Geoffrey H. Kleb was handed the keys to the institute by Lt. Col. John G. Canyock, thus becoming the 13th commander.

Canyock, along with his wife Judy and son David, is headed for an assignment as assistant defense attache, U.S. Embassy,

Moscow.

Kleb arrived here from the U.S. Army Defense School at Fort Bliss, Texas, where he was director, Threat Division, Directorate of Combat Development. Accompanying him on his tour at the institute are his wife Carolyn and son KJ.

Following the ceremony, Maj. Leslie E. Hagie, USARI director of instruction, presented the Meritorious Service Medal, with first oak leaf cluster, to Canyock.

Units

Self-help in Augsburg

by Maj. William E. Hawkins



U.S. Army photo

Patio complex built by 2nd Operations Bn. members.

In the spring of 1980, members of the 2nd Operations Battalion, Field Station Augsburg, suggested the unit undertake a project to construct, on a self-help basis, a covered patio complex adjacent to the unit barracks. Sgt. Edward T. Lundblum volunteered his architectural skills to design the structure and to draw up a bill of materials. Before the materials could be acquired, however, Lundblum was reassigned to Fort Meade, Md.

In late summer it appeared that the necessary material could be purchased. Again, volunteers stepped forward. Sp4 Daniel V. Cook arrived in the unit, announced that he was a carpenter and volunteered to take on the project. SSgt. Rowland A. Boggs said he was a stone mason and he could also help. PFC James F. Voelkel revealed he was an apprentice carpenter.

Together the three soldiers revamped the plans and undertook the mission of constructing a major structure that is now a landmark on Sheridan Kaserne in Augsburg.

In four weeks the men progressed from digging a foundation, pouring concrete, laying a brick foundation, building a wood deck and erecting a roof over the deck. The end result is a patio pavilion measuring 70 by 30 feet. A concrete slab was poured adjacent to the structure, and the foundation for the barbecue pit started. This outdoor complex is one that will last for years and will serve hundreds of soldiers within the 2nd Operations Bn. and Field Station Augsburg.

There were many doubters in the community, but now that the results have been seen, there

is no doubt that this is a project that will be the benchmark for future self-help projects throughout the field station.

This is the type of effort that underscores the hidden talents of INSCOM soldiers, and proves there are untapped resources in our units ready to be tasked by our imaginations. Boggs, Cook and Voelkel are indications of this and serve as the vanguard for future successes at Augsburg. They were helped in their projects by Sp4s John A. Stull and Reggie VanCleave, supply specialists who always seemed to be able to find needed materials. There were others in the unit, too numerous to mention here, who stopped by to help pound a nail or render advice.

Now all that is needed is warm weather to inaugurate the complex.

The 470th's Sp4 Barry L. Green walked away with all the honors for Primary Leadership Course 2-81 in January by topping the efforts of 36 classmates, including three Guardia Nacional soldiers. Green's top standing earned him an Army Certificate of Achievement and a Cutting Edge Award for training excellence, which were presented by 193rd Infantry Brigade commander, Brig. Gen. Kenneth C. Leur. He also received the Association of the U.S. Army's Certificate of Commendation, as well as a three-year membership in AUSA. The awards were presented by the Isthmian Chapter of the AUSA in recognition of Green's outstanding accomplishment.

Green was in the States and unavailable for comment when this article was written. But we were able to speak to his roommate, Sp4 Barry Graham. (The two Barry's attended the Defense Language Institute in California at the same time, so

470th's Green first in Primary Leadership

by Oleta B. Tinnin

their friendship goes back a ways.)

According to Graham, Green hails from North Carolina and has been in the Army since November 1978. He likes chess and war games. Don't bother browsing through his bookshelves unless you are partial to astrology or war situations. His music bent is toward classical and jazz albums. If you've zeroed out so far, you can still strike up an acquaintance with Green if you are any good on roller skates.

Asked whether Green had ever commented on the PLC, Graham said his roommate had not wanted to attend the course when his supervisor put him in for it. However, once he got into the action, he found he enjoyed it; that there was a lot to get out of it if you put a lot in. (As evidenced by the outcome, Green must have found something rather special to put into it.)

Green's future plans include college, ROTC and "probably, a career in the military."

Army Chief of Staff Gen. Edward C. Meyer visited INSCOM units and staff elements at Fort George G. Meade recently. Sgt. Maj. Richard Mueller met Gen. Meyer and escorted him to Hale Hall where Lt. Col. Eleas Cozanitis briefed him on INSCOM activities at Fort Meade.

CSM John Dunford then briefed the general on the 902nd Military Intelligence Group's Quality of Life Program.

Gen. Meyer then toured the future home of the 902nd MI Group Headquarters and the Group's CI/SIGSEC Battalion Headquarters which will occupy the fourth floor of Hale Hall in May.

Capt. Robert Brown and 1st Sgt. Charles Graham of INSCOM Headquarters Company, Fort Meade, escorted Gen. Meyer through Snowden Hall which serves as home to IN-

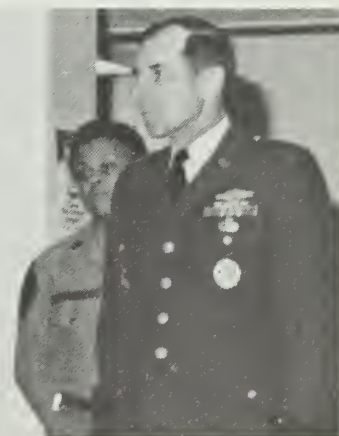
SCOM staff personnel assigned to Fort Meade and also houses the 641st MI Detachment and the Fort Meade Field Office of the 902nd MI Group.

Before departing, Gen. Meyer autographed a command photo which is now proudly displayed outside the company orderly room.



Army Chief of Staff Gen. Edward C. Meyer tours Snowden Hall at Ft. Meade, escorted by Capt. Robert Brown and 1st Sgt. Charles Graham.

Chief of Staff tours units at Ft. Meade



By Sp4 Silvestre Carpio, Jr.



Hook, line and sinker

by David Shribman
Washington Star Staff Writer

It seems all so fortuitous. An ambassador sets off on the luxurious Red Arrow night train from Moscow to Leningrad and finds a tempting young blonde in his compartment. A young man in the military attache's office finds he has been assigned a sexy Russian cleaning lady. A diplomat gets a whispery telephone call—and the offer of companionship—while traveling in far-flung Uzbek or Kirghiz.

And yet it isn't as innocent as it seems. Behind closed doors, where Soviet agents are most artful, even intimacy is full of intrigue. The walls often have eyes—and flashbulbs.

In hotels, country hideaways and even back alleys, the KGB operates a high-stakes pornography trade befitting the shadowy worlds of Graham Greene and John Le Carre. Its currency is blackmail, not rubles, and the snare is sexual entrapment.

Reports indicating an Army major assigned to the U.S. embassy in Moscow may have been caught up in such a trap are only the latest twists in a Soviet espionage tradition that is as old as the Russian Revolution itself.

"This sort of thing has always been an essential element of espionage," said one source prominent in intelligence circles. "But the Soviets have made it an

art. Their target is completely inundated by surveillance, telephone taps, everything. They know his habits better than he knows himself."

Mata Hari lives. Sometimes awkwardly, sometimes with astonishing ease, the Soviets have used the technique of sexual entrapment throughout the post-war period, luring Western diplomats, embassy guards, businessmen and journalists with women known within the KGB as "sparrows."

How often the sparrows get their worm can never be known. And though diplomatic and military ministries throughout the world warn Russia-bound personnel of the dangers that lurk in the unmade beds of Soviet relations, the West has often been embarrassed by activities in the sparrows' nests throughout the Soviet bloc.

It happens time and again. In the late 1950s six American diplomats and 10 Marine guards were compromised in Poland, a particularly fertile area for such amorous intrigues. The agents, described in the argot of the time as "pretty Polish girls," infiltrated the Marines' sleeping quarters while the diplomats enjoyed their trysts in hideaways around Warsaw. And at the same time, a Soviet intelligence agent seduced the wife of

an American foreign service officer, following and courting the woman for days.

"They're throwing girls at us by the scores everywhere behind the Iron Curtain," an American official said, "and they've also begun to work on our wives."

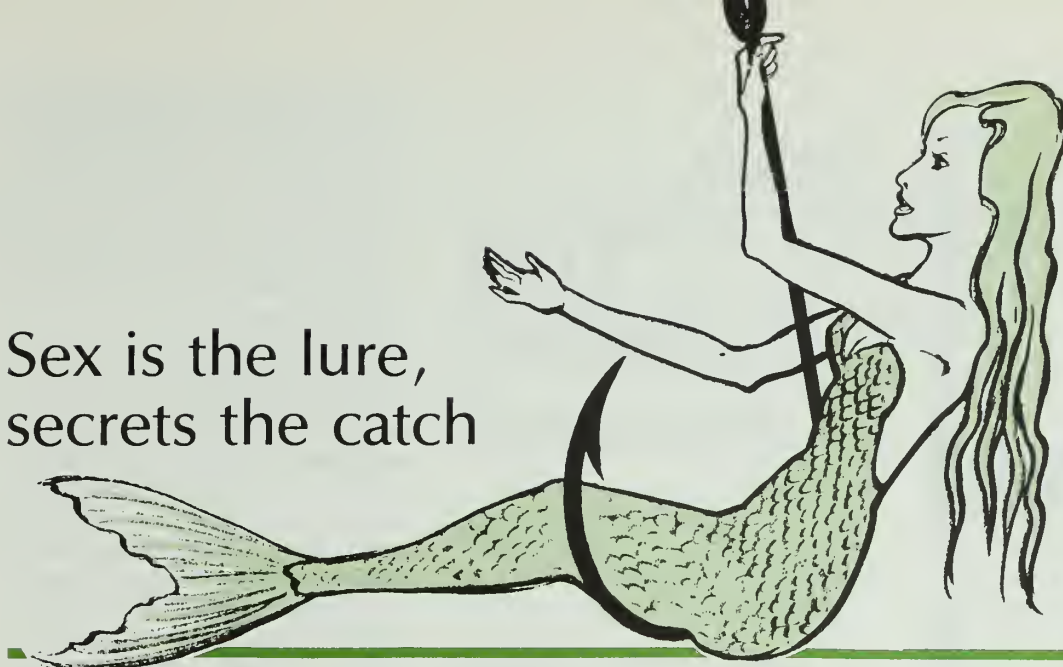
The Americans yielded little more than their bodies in this series of incidents; no classified information apparently was passed on. But two years later, in the celebrated liaison between Irwin C. Scarbeck and Urszula Discner, a number of classified American documents were passed to the Communist side.

Scarbeck was the second officer of the American embassy in Warsaw and Discner was the saucy 22-year-old blonde he fell for. She was a Polish agent, however, and she set him up for a raid that led to blackmail and, finally, to the transfer of classified information. Scarbeck, whose very name still causes anguish in the State Department, was convicted and sentenced to prison.

Such incidents are sprinkled through the tortuous history of East-West relations.

A very prominent Western European journalist travelling through the Soviet Union was drugged in Soviet Georgia, where a high proportion of these cases also seems to occur, and then was photographed with a

Sex is the lure, secrets the catch



woman. Once back in Moscow, colleagues advised him to inform his embassy, his editor and his wife of the incident.

In 1965, Cmdr. Anthony Courtney, one of the British Parliament's harshest critics of the Soviet Union, charged the Soviets with abusing their diplomatic privileges. Less than a month later snapshots showing him in bed with an Intourist guide he met four years earlier were circulating through the House of Commons.

There are many more. Gerda Munsinger—prostitute, petty thief and Soviet agent, according to a police report—had liaisons with at least two high Canadian officials. And a Norwegian foreign ministry official took a Russian as her lover; Soviet agents discovered the connection, taunted her and demanded security information.

Then there was the American engineer who vacationed in the Soviet Union. In a restaurant in the city of Kharkov he was ushered, innocently enough, to a table with an attractive woman. They passed a pleasant evening and agreed to meet again. The next night she led him to an outdoor bench. One thing led to another and they began to embrace.

A moment later she began yelling in Russian. The American was arrested for attempted rape

and was offered a choice: a long prison sentence or cooperation with Soviet agents.

A similar choice was offered a French embassy subordinate who was lured into a tryst with a KGB agent in 1961. He would neither endure the humiliation of the photographs nor cooperate with the Soviets. He killed himself.

But perhaps the most startling incident involved Maurice Dejean, former French ambassador to Moscow. The Soviets followed him through posts in New York, London and Tokyo and knew he had an eye for a well-turned leg. Once in Moscow, KGB agents set him up with an actress, accused him of adultery and had him beaten.

"Our operation with the French ambassador was one of the greatest in the history of the KGB's inside operations," a former KGB agent told a Senate committee nearly a dozen years ago.

There was, however, no evidence Dejean parted with any classified information and French President Charles DeGaulle, who knew Dejean from his days as a senior member of the Free French government-in-exile in London, merely winked at the incident.

"Over the last 10 or 20 years there have been several incidents of this," said former CIA

director Richard Helms. "But entrapping them with women isn't as useful these days. The Soviets know that adultery usually isn't the cardinal sin it used to be."

Instead, the Soviets have framed Westerners with charges of homosexuality, threatening to share pictures of male diplomats in compromising positions with young boys or male prostitutes.

"Homosexuality is a serious crime in the Soviet Union," said John Barron, a Reader's Digest senior editor who has assembled the most comprehensive compendium of sexual entrapment incidents. "Any Soviet homosexual is automatically at the service of the KGB; they're given the choice of performing as the KGB directs or going to prison. It's easy for them to recruit homosexuals in any class of society."

Like many other entrapment schemes used in espionage, such techniques call for drugging a target, undressing him, placing him in a compromising position and then taking pictures.

"It's a very classical kind of thing the KGB does," said a former ambassador to Moscow. "It's a very easy method and it's nothing new. It's only a bit astonishing that they try this sort of thing."

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Privacy Act

Your questions answered

Third in a series

When pulling CQ, I occasionally receive calls asking for the home phone number of a member of the unit. Usually the caller identifies himself as a personal friend. May I give the caller this information?

No.

Suppose the caller claims that he wants to contact the unit member officially, may I release the home phone number?

No.

Suppose the calls appear to be important and the caller should be put in touch with the unit member. What do I do?

In both instances, you should take the caller's number and advise him that you will try to contact the unit member and have him contact the caller direct. You are correct in assuming the calls may be important, but you also must protect the privacy of the unit member.

What type of information is requested under the Privacy Act?

Remember that the Privacy Act pertains only to U.S. citizens or aliens lawfully admitted for permanent residence. Under the Privacy Act, these individuals may request any information which pertains to them personally, or is retrieved by reference to their names.

What type of information is requested under the Freedom of Information Act?

The Freedom of Information Act allows anyone, anywhere, citizen or noncitizen, to write to any federal executive branch agency and request any information.

(Do you have a question regarding either the Privacy Act or the Freedom of Information Act? We will publish your questions and answers in future columns. Direct your questions to: Freedom of Information/Privacy Office, U.S. Army Intelligence and Security Command, ATTN: IACSF-FI (FORUM), Fort Meade, Md. 20755.)

Rewards for extended tours

The Army implemented on March 1 an incentive program for soldiers in certain MOSs in Europe and Korea who extend their normal overseas tour by a minimum of one year. The program is designed to improve retention and enhance unit readiness. The MOSs selected for this program are those which have larger authorizations overseas than in CONUS.

Soldiers eligible for this program may select one of three options:

- Special pay during the period of extension at the rate of \$50 per month.
- A period of rest and recuperative absence for not more than 30 days.

cuperative absence for not more than 30 days.

- A period of rest and recuperative absence for not more than 15 days and round-trip transportation at government expense from the location of the extended tour of duty to the nearest port in CONUS and return.

Following is a list of MOSs for which incentives are in effect: 05D, 05H, 05K, 12E, 15D, 15E, 15J, 16B, 16C, 16D, 16E, 21G, 21L, 22L, 22N, 23U, 24G, 24K, 24U, 25L, 26R, 26V, 31T, 32D, 32G, 34C, 34E, 34F, 34H, 35F, 35H, 45N, 46N, 55G, 55Z, 72G and 98G.

Any soldier eligible for reenlistment who desires to take advantage of the Space Imbalanced MOS package must submit a written request through normal personnel channels and receive approval/disapproval before initiating any reenlistment action other than straight PDA (Present Duty Assignment). If the personnel action is approved, soldiers will be required to extend their ETS under the provisions of Rule 2, Table 3-1, AR 601-280, or if within the reenlistment window and otherwise qualified, be permitted to reenlist straight PDA, no other options considered.

Recruiting for civilian applicants for intelligence research specialist positions in signals, imagery, human and all-source production of intelligence has been resumed by INSCOM civilian personnel officials.

The hiring limitation imposed under former President Carter, effective in February 1980, and the more recent hiring freeze imposed by the Reagan administration have affected the number of applications for intelligence positions. Now that the freeze has "thawed," interested persons are encouraged to apply.

Prerequisites for all positions include three years progressively responsible administrative, professional, investigative or technical work which required the ability to deal effectively with individuals or groups; to collect, assemble and analyze pertinent facts; and to prepare clear and concise written reports. Undergraduate education may be substituted for this experience.

Civilian hiring freeze 'thaws'

Additional progressively responsible professional experience of two years or more, which included research and analysis, is also required. Graduate education may be credited for a portion of this experience.

Applications are sought for positions at GS-9 to GS-12 level, \$18,585 to \$26,951, respectively. These positions are in the expected service and, therefore, do not require registering with the

Office of Personnel Management. Though they do not confer competitive status, full-time appointments do offer normal federal employment benefits such as Civil Service retirement, life insurance and health insurance benefits.

For a qualifications review, interested applicants should submit Standard Form 171, Personal Qualifications Statement, to HQ, USA INSCOM, Attn: IAG-CIV-J, Arlington Hall Station, Arlington, Va. 22212.

NSA Director's Fellowship

Cryptologists as leaders

Military and civilian cryptologists have an exceptional opportunity for development to leadership levels in their career field. The National Security Agency Director's Fellowship Program offers a one-year tour of duty in the Director's Fellowship Office at Fort Meade, Md., to top-performing military officers in the rank of O4 and O5 and to NSA civilians in grades GGD-13 and GGD-14.

During the program, fellows work for and with the NSA director and accompany him and other NSA principals to top management meetings and on visits to NSA activities. Their exposure to this executive-level NSA/CSS decision-making process gives the cryptologists a unique educational and career-developmental experience while

concurrently making important contributions to the agency.

Participation in each year's program is restricted to five fellows: a military officer from the Army, Air Force, Navy and Marine Corps and one NSA civilian. A slate of three officers, listed in order of priority, is submitted by each Service Cryptologic Agency commander to the NSA director. A selection panel, chaired by a flag or general officer and composed of officers in the rank of O6 from each military service and a senior civilian cryptologist, assists the director in his selection of fellows.

While fellows already assigned to NSA may begin the program anytime after their selection, those outside NSA normally begin the one-year program on October 1 after having reported

to NSA during August or September.

The program is not rigidly structured, permitting participants to select a method of development best suited to their individual experiences or personal preference.

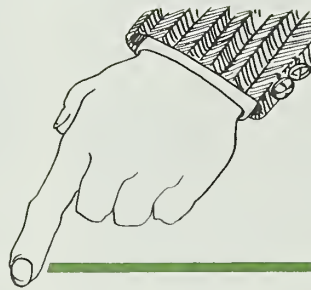
The current Army NSA Director's Fellow is Maj. Ronald W. Carter who has served in signal intelligence assignments for 16 years. At the time of his selection, Carter was assigned to the Defense Intelligence Agency as Chief, Signals Intelligence/Electronic Warfare Section, Soviet-Warsaw Pact Division.

Army officers interested in competing for the NSA Director's Fellowship may apply to the Military Personnel Center for consideration.

Think your career is like roulette?

by CWO 4 Maceo Boston

*Here's
help*



"Round and round it goes and where it stops nobody knows."

Did you ever wonder if your career is managed at MILPERCEN by the spin of a wheel? If you're a military intelligence warrant officer, the answer is a definite "No!" In the following paragraphs I'll discuss the assignment process and your professional development, along with a few tips on how you can enhance your career.

First, the assignment process. Based on the ODP, or Officer Distribution Plan, your assignment officer determines where you will be assigned. The ODP can be compared to a bank in which is deposited all available and projected officer personnel by MOS. These "deposits" are then distributed to units around the world as authorized by the Personnel Structure and Composition System (PERSACS). If units have personnel shortages, the ODP also serves as the unit's authorization to requisition replacements.

What happens to those requisitions when they reach MILPERCEN? Of course, they must first be validated. Did the unit ask for the correct MOS and is it in line with the ODP? Valid requisitions are sent to the assignment manager who begins the search for a replacement. Overseas positions are filled first with volunteers, if available. If not, those

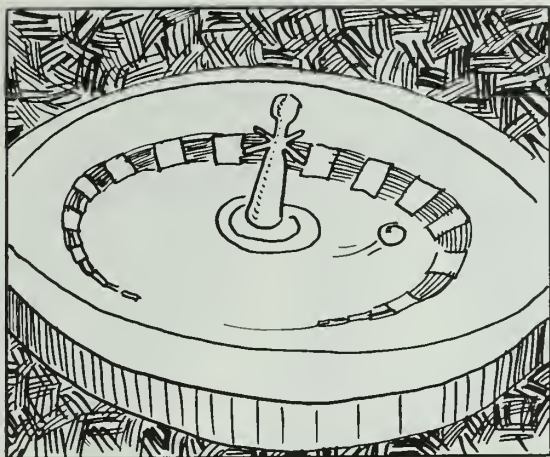
officers who have been in CONUS assignments longest are the next likely candidates.

How long is "longest?" I'm asked that question many times each day. My answer is that it varies according to MOS, overseas requirements and available officers. For example, the average time in CONUS for those in MOSs 962A and 986A is 48 months. On the other end of the scale is 983A with only 14 months. But these times can change rapidly so that it is impossible to make accurate predictions.

In any case, a laborious screening process of eligible officers begins, for MILPERCEN must match Army needs with many variables, not the least of which are the personal desires of officers who may be reassigned. If you are selected, the assignment manager will first notify your local personnel officer who will then notify your commander. The commander will normally call you in to discuss the projected PCS. You also have the option of calling your assignment manager for more details about the assignment. The Request for Orders is issued three days after initial notification is made.

If you are in CONUS and are selected for a short, unaccompanied tour in either Korea or Turkey, you have the option of applying for a Homebase or Advanced Assignment (HAAP). Simply stated, HAAP is a request, submitted on DA Form 4187 to your assignment manager through channels, that upon completion of your overseas tour you either be returned to the CONUS installation where currently assigned, or to another CONUS post based on a projected vacancy in your MOS. This assignment is confirmed before you leave for your overseas tour.

On the other hand, you may wish to extend your overseas tour. There are two ways you can do this. The first is by requesting in writing an extension for your own vacancy.



Keep in mind that if you are occupying a position that has a language requirement, or an Army Skill Indicator position, the school for which is six months in duration, you must submit your extension request at least 18 months before your Date Eligible for Return from Overseas (DEROS).

The second method is to request an Intra-Theater Transfer (reassignment within a major overseas command) or an Inter-Theater Transfer (reassignment **between** major overseas commands), to be effective on DEROS. Your request should be submitted 12–18 months in advance of DEROS to fill a vacancy with no language or ASI requirement, and 18–24 months in advance for a position with a language or ASI requirement. If you do not choose to extend your overseas tour, you can expect word of your next assignment about five months before DEROS.

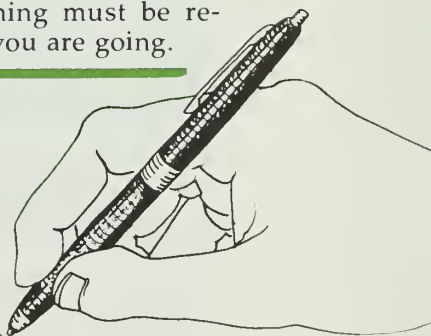
If you are selected for PCS, your record of military schooling will be matched up with requirements of the new position. If further training is indicated, you will be sent to the appropriate course enroute to the assignment.

The same is true for other MOS and service schools, such as the MI Warrant Officer Advanced Course. To be eligible for MIWOAC you must be a CW2 with between four and nine years service (three years in some cases), have a good performance record and be in a PCS status. While MILPERCEN cannot fund your attendance on a TDY and return basis, your unit or command can fund your attendance on this basis with the approval of the MILPERCEN Warrant Officer Division. Then you will be stabilized in the unit or command for one year from date of graduation. Two 15-week courses per year are presently conducted at the U.S. Army Intelligence Center and School, Fort Huachuca, Ariz.

Perhaps you're interested in attending the Warrant Officer Senior Course. To do this, you must be selected by a Department of the Army Selection Board, be in the grade of CW2 (P), CW3 or CW4, with a minimum of seven years WO service. Other Than Regular Army (OTRA) warrant officers must have no more than 15 years active service; Regular Army, LRADP (Long Range Active Duty Program) and Managed Tenure warrant officers with no more than 22 years active service (computed as of Jan. 31 of the year the DA selection board meets). Because only about seven MIWO are selected annually to attend WOSC in residence, I suggest officers in grade CW2 and above take the correspondence course.

Aside from the MIWOAC and the WOSC, any other DA-funded training must be required by the job to which you are going.

Request an extension

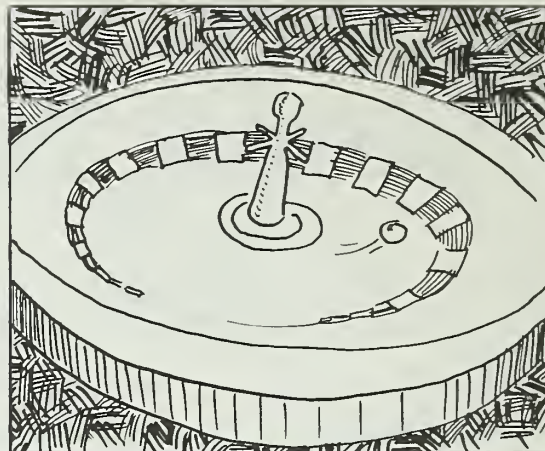


I receive many questions concerning the civilian education degree completion program (DCP). Currently, the Army will permit qualified warrant officers to attend college under DCP to earn associate degrees only. There are four programs:

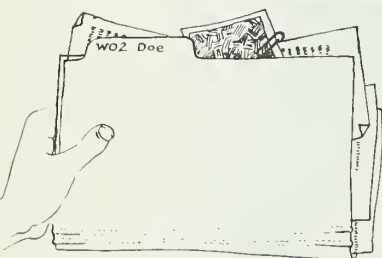
- Warrant Officer Associate Degree Program, a fully-funded 18-month program.
 - DCP partially-funded 12-month program.
 - DCP permissive TDY program in which a degree may be earned in less than 20 weeks.
- It is not a funded program and is most favorably considered in conjunction with a PCS.

Career roulette?

From page 11



- Cooperative Degree Program in which a degree may be earned in less than six months, on a permissive TDY basis, in conjunction with MIWOAC or WOSC.



Check your files

If you are interested in one of the programs, consult AR 621-1, Civilian Schooling, and DA Pam 600-11, Warrant Officer Professional Development, for guidance.

There are a few simple rules which, if followed, will lighten your task of being a successful warrant officer:

- Maintain outstanding performance ratings.
- Keep your physical current.
- Take an initial official photograph when promoted to CW2 and every four years thereafter.
- Make every effort to visit MILPERCEN at least once every three years to review your official file. It is also a good idea to annually request a copy of your official microfiche, free of charge, by writing to HQDA, MILPERCEN, ATTN: DAPC-POR-SR; 200 Stovall Street; Alexandria, Va. 22332. You should receive the microfiche within 30 days. At the same time, request through your local MILPO a copy of your Officer Record Brief. Once these items are received, you should carefully read them to insure that all contents are yours, that all OER, awards and decorations, letters of appreciation and commendation, and diplomas awarded since your last check have been entered in your file and that cur-

rent photograph and physical data are listed. This check should also be conducted after the announcement of any selection board for which you are being considered. If you find any errors in your file, you should take prompt action to correct them. Submit backup documents to me and I will be glad to make whatever changes I can to your file.

- Ensure that your file contains a current preference statement listing your wants, desires and needs, as well as any special considerations.

- Make use of the 24-hour Inquiry Service, AV 221-8792, commercial telephone (202) 325-8792, if you wish to make an immediate check into your official file.

- If you plan to review your official files in person, please make an appointment approximately 72 hours in advance by calling AV 221-9618/9619, commercial (202) 325-9618/9619. The Official Files Section is located in Room 5S33, Hoffman Building II.

- Be an outstanding soldier!



Call us

I am available to assist you in any way possible with your career desires and needs. Write me at HQDA, MILPERCEN; ATTN: DAPC-OPW-II (CW0 4 Boston); 200 Stovall Street; Alexandria, Va. 22332. You can reach me by telephone at AV 221-7840/1/2, or commercial (202) 325-7840/1/2.

CW04 Boston is MIWO Career/Assignment Manager, MILPERCEN, Alexandria, Va.



Panama is a place of perpetual warmth, a melting pot of nationalities, a water wonderland. It is a paradise for naturalists, collectors, sports enthusiasts, and tourists; a commercial and political focal point for all of Central America; and an important waterway from East to West. But how is it for just plain day-to-day living? What does it have to offer your family, and what kind of financial pitfalls does life in Panama carry with it? What travel options do you have, and in what type of organization will you be working?

The Central American country of Panama is shaped a bit like a sickle, with the arc to the north and the handle to the west. Contrary to popular belief, this sickle does not run north and south. The handle connects in the west to Costa Rica. The cutting tip connects to Colombia in the east. Most of the country lies edgewise along the 9th parallel of north latitude, some 800 miles nearer the equator than Hawaii. The 80th line of longitude almost exactly bisects Panama, putting the country straight south of Cuba, Charleston, and Pittsburgh. Because of the way the country lies, the Atlantic Ocean is north and the Pacific Ocean south.

Place of perpetual warmth

by Capt. Richard A. "Jack" Rail
Oleta B. Tinnin

The following pages are dedicated to the 470th Military Intelligence Group. There are articles describing the beauty of Panama and its people, the Canal, opportunities for recreation, travel in Latin America, shopping and, of course, stories of the people who are the 470th's family. We invite our readers to use the section as a permanent reference to this tropical paradise. You, too, may be fortunate enough to be assigned there soon.



Panama is tropical and humid, but surprisingly not hot. Seasonal temperatures vary little, normally reaching into the high 80s in the daytime and dropping to 75 degrees or so at night. During the nine-month rainy season (April to December), heavy rains fall daily—but not in unceasing downpours. Skies clear off and cloud up a couple of times during the day so that the sun shines every day. In the three-month dry season, rains come about twice a month.

Water sports are big as are golf, tennis and softball. Fresh and saltwater fishing are excellent. Sailing and boating are marvelous—with proper permits, you can sail or motor your own craft through the canal. White sands predominate on most of the many beaches. Skin- and scuba-diving are very popular (see Van Beall's article). Horse riding and racing are available, and betting the ponies is "legit" in downtown Panama City.

Casinos abound. Numerous ruins offer up the past. Movies and sports facilities are available on post and off. In Panama City theaters, movies are English with Spanish subtitles. Little theater groups stage several productions each year and combine forces for an extravaganza each summer. New talent is always welcome.

Beaches are easily accessible and scuba courses are available. Collection clubs (coins, stamps, bottles, etc.), square dancing groups, and fraternal organizations are open for membership. Pools are on post, and lessons are available for all age groups. Officer/NCO clubs and cafeterias are on post; fraternal organization restaurants are open to the public in the civilian sector of the Canal Area. Good restaurants of every type and nationality abound in Panama City, as well as short order places such as McDonalds, Dairy Queen and Pizza Amigo.

The U.S. school system in Panama is ranked one of the highest in the U.S. Public School System. Elementary schools are on post. Junior high and high school students are bussed to centralized schools (off post, but in the Canal Area). Extracurricular activities include Jr. ROTC, sports, drama, music, art and computer science, to mention only a few. Little League and Scouting are both extremely active.

Living "on the economy" is expensive, and rental housing is below the norm by U.S. standards. On-post housing is at Fort Clayton (Pacific) or Fort Gulick (Atlantic) and is centrally air-conditioned unless the quarters are tropical, in which case you may want to purchase window units.

Bus and taxi service in Panama can be confusing. However, military taxis are available, and sponsors can assist with personal transportation until your POV arrives.

PXs and commissaries are open on a rotating basis for customer convenience, and the Mall at Albrook Air Force Station offers PX and concession items. Prices in Panama City are considerably higher than in U.S. stores, but there are bargains to be had if you know where to look. Gasoline purchased through the PX system costs more than gasoline purchased in the States, but less than that purchased in Panama City.

Plan to spend up to \$36 on automobile licenses per vehicle, depending on the size of the vehicle. Both driver's and vehicle licenses must be obtained within 30 days of your arrival on the isthmus. No test is required for your license if you already have a valid license to exchange.

Now that travel restrictions prohibit driving to Panama, you will probably fly down; however, for subsequent trips to and from Panama while assigned here you will have the option of applying to travel on the Panama Canal Commission ship, **The Cristobal**. Should travel restrictions be lifted prior to your PCS, you might consider driving down (See "PCSing the Leisurely Way," **INSCOM Journal**, May 1979, P. 2). □

Walk on the wild side

by SFC William R. Riddle



By Sgt. Alvan Beall, III

Panamanian boy and his pet three-toed sloth.

Much has been written about the beauty of Panama, but most concerns the built-up parts, such as Panama City, the more accessible parts of the Panama Canal, or the easily-reachable ruins such as Old Panama, Porto Bello, or Fort San Lorenzo. All these are beautiful, but to see the true beauty of Panama, one must go out into the wilder parts, away from such things as cities or paved roads.

Out where the roads are gravel, dirt, or nonexistent, there is beauty which cannot be matched by anything "civilized." In the jungles there are animals such as the sloth, which is so slow-moving that if you find one on the ground you can walk right up to it, even pick it up, with no danger. There are coati-mundis, which look much like brown long-nosed raccoons; coypus, which resemble big guinea pigs, several kinds of monkeys and so on. You can see an occasional jaguar, the big cat of this jungle, sometimes as big as a Great Dane dog.

You also see birds in great numbers of colors and combinations of colors that have to be seen to even be imagined, much less believed. At some times of the year flowering trees, some of them more than 100 feet tall, cover whole hillsides with masses of red, yellow, orange, pink and purple.

In addition to the jungles, there are huge stands of elephant grass, some of the tallest grass in the world, sometimes nearly 20 feet tall. In those grasslands, you feel like a mouse in an unmowed yard.

The Panama Canal itself has its wilder parts. Most people know of the giant locks and are vaguely aware of Gatun Lake. But go out on the gravel maintenance roads, or take a small boat along some of the places where even the roads do not reach, and you will see the canal's real beauty. Here are square miles of elephant grass, little inlets leading miles back from the canal to become jungle streams

Panama

' . . . off the beaten path. . . '

and many small islands. Several of these islands have been somewhat improved with small huts or open, thatched-roofed shelters called "bohios" built on them. These bohios are used mostly by the infantry for waterborne training purposes. No roads reach anywhere near these islands, and thick masses of water weeds prevent even powered boats from approaching them. They are reachable only by small rowboat, and some of the more distant, secluded islands are quite suitable for picnics, sunbathing, and so forth.

Finally, there are the coastlines, and I don't mean the regular beaches. The regular beaches have much to be said about them, but that is not for me here. The Atlantic and

Pacific coastlines of Panama are quite different, in spite of being so close together. For one thing, there are the tides: About 18 feet on the Pacific side and about one foot on the Atlantic side.

The vegetation also differs. The Pacific side has a curious species of tree which grows between the high and low tide lines. Twice a day the tree is on land, and twice a day it stands in up to six feet of salt water. The Atlantic side vegetation is dominated by mangrove swamps. These trees grow in soupy mud sometimes 50 feet deep, with masses of roots interlacing into one huge tangle just above the surface.

So, in conclusion, let me say that if you want to see the real beauty of Panama, don't be a "barracks rat" or even a "townie." Don't stay on paved roads or go only to spots in the tourist brochures. Get off the beaten path, out into the wilder country. You may be practically eaten alive by insects, but you will see so much beauty that you will never regret the discomfort. □



U.S. Army photo

Coati-mundis abound in the wild and on the post. Snacks bring them out in droves.



Courtney Rail, one of the author's daughters, and friend, Rigoberto Rivera, ride two of their many horses.

'I don't care if we never leave Panama'

by Capt. Richard A. "Jack" Rail

So spoke my wife just six months into our three-year tour. At the time, quarters on post were not available and we lived on the economy, in a third-floor walkup 20 miles west of "Everything American" in a town called La Chorrera on the Pacific side of the isthmus. Shortly thereafter we moved into quarters on Fort Clayton. Two months after that, we moved back out to La Chorrera where we've lived ever since.

Is it fascination that drew us away? "Going native?" An especially good deal of some kind? Why live so far away when we could live closer to our own kind?

As you'd expect, the answers to these questions tell a lot about my family and me. The simple answer is that we **like** where we live. What follow are some of our impressions and not a few anecdotes, all true, that reveal something of what it's like to live in Panama.

The country looks dirty since there is only the Pan-American Highway to carry the volumes of traffic from Panama City west into the so-called "interior." If there are anti-litter laws, I've never noticed anyone observing them much, so that trash blows along the highway pretty freely.

But Panamians are an almost scrupulously clean people as regards their persons. They are poorer than we gringos, but they dress nicely. Of course, their priorities differ from ours, so that one routinely sees lovely ladies shopping in expensive clothes, with posh heels, and hair in curlers.

I sometimes think of Panama as the U.S. must have been 40 years ago. Whatever you want is here, but it frequently takes some doing to get your hands on it. Often you settle for something similar to, but not exactly, what you had in mind. Too, whatever it is usually can

be found only in one place. Take it or leave it, bub.

Some things have changed to the more modern just in our year and a half in La Chorrera. Used to be you could bargain with a cab driver. He'd name a price, you'd say he was crazy; he'd come down some, you'd say you didn't have that much. He'd start to drive away, then make a "final offer." You'd holler that he was robbing you. He'd say he had a family to feed and you were trying to starve them all. Finally, reluctantly, you'd open your palm with its coins—fewer coins than he'd demanded, but his eyes would light up, the vision of his hungry babies gone. And away the two of you would drive. I or my wife have enacted this scene many times, sometimes riding for 50 cents and a pack of chewing gum, for 25 cents and three cigarettes, 40 cents and two buttons, or some similar unlikely combination.

This doesn't happen anymore. Panama has discovered the union, and today the cabbie just sneers at your baubles. You pay his price or walk. Sounds like D.C., eh?

But you can still haggle with business folk in our town, depending on where you go. My wife Belinda routinely browbeats car mechanics, butchers, sales girls, furniture makers and horse traders into doing her will for embarrassingly-paltry sums.

(We used to feel sheepish about this, until our Spanish got good enough that we figured out we were *still* paying more than the locals pay.) And though none of my family is really fluent in Spanish (my elder daughter is, but her grammar needs work), we've found these people take to you much more readily when they see you're trying to speak Spanish and you're not a spendthrift.

Probably the first thing we took deep interest in was the Panamanian bus system. From our third-floor vantage along the highway in La Chorrera, we used to point them out to each other, my wife, two daughters and I. Panama's answer to the need for mass transit is her bus system. Busses abound here, always packed full of bodies. They (the busses and the bodies) are privately owned, and the drivers take great pride in their vehicles. This pride takes the form of fancy paint jobs—not "fancy" in the way we're accustomed to in the States, but rather in a uniquely-Panamanian style.

Color is the hallmark, and the storied Latin flare for garish colors is nowhere more evident than on Panama's busses. It is perfectly normal to see a four-colored bus, with a red hood, a white top, a green bottom and a wide orange stripe around the middle. Or a blue hood, a red bottom, off-white top and a picture of Roberto Duran or Donna Summer on the back.

Some of the drivers attach multi-colored tassels to their mirrors and across the top front

edges of their vehicles. Once the bus rolls, these flap wildly in the wind. The more inventive, modern drivers hook up exotic sound systems that make their busses rolling concerts of salsa, calypso and rock music. The wealthier drivers fix up wild Christmas light displays on the hoods and around the edges of their busses. Some even bring the lights inside so that the murals painted therein can be seen by night.

Get used to 'Panamanian Approximate Time. . .'

These moving, metal Christmas trees make quite a sight at dusk when all the lights are on but it's still not too dark to make out the paint jobs.

But it doesn't stop there.

One thing *all* Panamanian drivers love with irrational passion is a car horn. They honk for any reason, or for no reason at all. They honk at girls, other drivers, dogs, beer cans on the side of the road. And it's in the fine art of horn-honking that Panamanian bus drivers really come into their own. Someone, somewhere in this country, specializes in classical Latin car horn music. That fellow creates a unique horn for each of his bus-driving customers, so that at any time of day or night pedestrians are treated to rapid-fire horn versions of "La Cucuracha" and other greats.

An interesting facet of Panamanian housing in the countryside is that it provides for neither heat nor air conditioning. Neither is needed since the temperature seldom climbs into the 90s, and usually drops at night into the mid-70s. Once acclimated to humidity, the body is comfortable without heat or air.

Straight sunlight, on the other hand, can be a real bummer. Skin requires a few months to adjust to the more intense solar rays here near the equator. Until your skin has adjusted, you can't take more than 20 minutes or so of sunlight at a time.

One thing Panama certainly is famous for, ladies, is its male chauvinism. This country is unabashedly, unashamedly macho. Watch closely, and you can see husbands putting their wives on the bus to go somewhere, giving them just exactly enough change to go, conduct the business at hand and return. Female Panamanian drivers are rare. They exist, but almost never do you see a Panamanian woman driving when there are men in the car.

Which brings to my mind a somewhat revealing anecdote. In the states, guys normally express their approbation of a passing lovely with a whistle, or maybe a carefully-rehearsed wolf line. Panamanian men hiss, as though to scare off a cat.

It took my poor wife awhile to get used to this hissing, which is not meant to be polite or anything but a somewhat vulgar comment on a lady's sexuality. Anyway, 'twas a hot, still day when Belinda's car broke down, and she had to walk past the La Chorrera bus terminal to get help. Now the bus terminal is a natural gathering place for the shiftless, lame and footloose (which is to say, lazy men). As Belinda strolled by, the place erupted with hissing as though a platoon of speeding Mack trucks all hit their air brakes at once.

Burning with anger, my poor gringa could think of but one fitting response: Flash the bird! So she raised up her fist, only to discover that she knew not which digit to fly! As the air explosion turned to laughter, she gave up and just shook her fist, striding on.

The weird thing is, once you accustom yourself to this macho

stuff, it isn't at all hard to deal with. Or so Belinda says. I don't know. I've found myself the target of some penetrating, purposeful stares from perfectly respectable ladies at the bus stop. Maybe they're striking back in kind. Or maybe these ladies weren't so respectable, after all.

I haven't mentioned yet one charming trait of Panamanians that drives gringos crazy. This is their attitude toward time. It's widely at variance with our own. Our Germanic and British traditions imbue us with a sense of the necessity to be "on time," and most of us get here and there within 10 minutes or so of "the appointed hour." This is important to us, for we tell ourselves that our time is valuable and we don't want it wasted.

Well, Panamanians see these things somewhat differently. Time to them is a probabilistic concept, rather than a hard-and-fast measurement. The storefront sign that says "Open 8 a.m. to 6 p.m." means the place probably will open before 9 and may close around 6, if anyone's around to see it. And don't even try to make your purchases during lunch. If you don't have it bought by 11, forget about it until 3 or so. I call this "Panamanian Approximate Time," much as in Kansas City we used to talk about Central Standard Time.

And the Panamanian friend who says something like "See you tonight at 6!" **really** means "See you next time I see you!" We've had many a dinner go cold and crusty waiting for that friend who was coming by at 6. And the friend is always, **always** surprised when you ask him where he was last night. No disrespect or insult is intended when he doesn't show up on time, or not at all. His concept of time is different from yours, and that's all there is to it.

Of course, not all Panama operates on Panamanian Approximate Time. Certainly the canal does not, nor do most of

the big industries in Panama City. But come on out where I live, in the country, away from the American, and European and Japanese influences, and see it. It's real.

But I suppose it's time to really lay it on the line and reveal why we choose to live "in Panama." One reason: horses. My wife is a horse freak, and horseflesh goes cheap by American standards, away from

'Panama. . .one of the Army's best-kept secrets'

Panama City.

It isn't just horses, actually. We're fond of animals, period, and it shows in the zoo we call home. And it gets worse every time I go off somewhere. In December, for example, I left to go to Arlington Hall Station for the annual training conference. When I left, we owned two horses, five cats and one dog. When I came back one week later, we owned three horses, the same five cats and two dogs. Well, before I went TDY in January, two of the cats wandered off and one of the dogs died, leaving three horses, three cats and one dog. Three weeks later I trudged up the driveway to find **four** horses, the same three cats, and still another dog! Then in February I went home on leave. Came back to **five** horses, **five** cats and **three** dogs!

(Clearly, I don't keep a very tight rein on my womenfolk. I'm one-against-three, after all, and—let's face it—I don't even **have** a rein. It's my tenderhearted frau's practice to save animals from extinction at the hands of the vet, neuter or spay them, and find homes for them; thus, our house animal population rises and falls constantly).

One of these days, you may find yourself on orders to Panama. Don't fight it, friend. This place is one of the Army's best-kept secrets. Or at least I think so. Things are different here, but not strange, and most of the differences derive from the prosperity gap between the U.S. and Panama. Grass here is usually cut by Indians using machetes, rather than with tractors and sicklebar mowers. It's noisy and close-packed in the population centers where you don't want to walk down dark streets. But that's no change, is it? Get away from the city, out into the boondocks, and you'll like what you find. People are cheerful, though reserved, and not at all unfriendly. They don't seem to have heard of "The Ugly American," so you needn't look for resentment or ill feeling because it isn't there. I **did** look for it when the Canal Treaty went into effect on Oct. 1, 1979, and simply couldn't see it out where I live.

When you come, don't bring a brand new car. The streets and roads will have it rattling merrily in a short time. Gasoline's high and going higher, and you want your car to burn regular, not unleaded. Bring any old furniture you want refinished; Panamanian artisans do beautiful work at unbelievably low prices. Don't bring a rocking chair—you'll want to buy a leather-covered rocker after you get here. Fancy televisions are wasted in Panama, since most of the viewing fare on the Armed Forces station and the two Panamanian stations is pretty unimaginative. You can watch pro football on TV in season, but basketball and baseball are pretty much confined to All Star and tournament/championship time.

But do come, if you can. My wife's a New Jersey city kid whose Spanish is pretty bad. But she and both my daughters don't want to leave.

Me, I'm just along for the ride. □

A man, a plan, a canal:

by Ed Armbruster



Undersized craft face special problems in transiting the locks. Note guide lines which keep craft away from lock walls during raising and lowering.

Back when a canal across the Isthmus of Panama was a figment of imagination, the people who were interested in such a project never realized the magnitude of problems that nature would present in the way of torrential tropical rains to the construction of such a waterway. The 47½ mile Panama transcontinental railroad, which began operation in 1845 after five years in construction, encountered the same problems as would later embroil the builders of the Panama Canal: how to bridge the unpredictable rivers, mainly the Chagres which is the escape route for rain runoff. This watershed encompassed steep jungle uplands and mountains that rose sharply 2,000–3,000 feet high.

The drainage basin of the Chagres River from its headwaters to the Caribbean Sea was a relatively small area, about the size of the state of Rhode Island, and this certainly was no match for excessive water. Pioneer engineers reckoned that the success of building and operating a canal depended on somehow containing and controlling the Chagres River. Also, they proposed building the canal in such a way that it would utilize this vast water supply. They created two artificial lakes which would raise ships to the level of these lakes by a series of locks. Then the ships would sail across the lakes and be lowered by locks to the level of the ocean on the other end.

To do this, two dams were built: one damming the Chagres River close to where it flowed into the Caribbean; and on the Pacific side, a smaller one damming back the smaller Rio Grande River. After completion of the canal, a third dam was constructed of concrete and earth, damming the Chagres once again halfway to its headwaters and creating another large reservoir of water which further enhanced smooth operation of the canal.

From the very beginning, experts were employed for water management. The first

Photos by 1st Lt. Stephen Donahoo

Panama

were French. They built stillwells, took rain measurements and plotted river discharge. Some of the stillwells built by the French are still in use.

Early detection of heavy rains, or impending rains, became necessary. Meteorologists joined the ranks of hydrologists. Water trends, climatical data and forecasting played an important role in flood control, especially when the reservoirs were full. In the vast watershed area, monitoring sites are strategically placed aside banks of major rivers and positioned on summit peaks of surrounding jungle.

Travel to and from these recording sites to collect data and perform maintenance at times presents unique challenges. Various modes of transport are used. These include horseback, cayucos, motorboats and helicopters provided by the U.S. Army. Some sites are so remote as to be accessible only by hiking.

River stations are manned during peak runoff season (flood season) in order to update discharge curves and for flood control. Discharge measurements are taken by gaging from cable cars, which at times includes night gaging. The hazards of floating logs or other debris sometimes create problems for the gaging crew. Low-water gaging is taken during dry season either by wading or aboard a cayuco. When the lakes are at optimum levels, the inflow from rivers is spilled or dumped to prevent flooding. When flood watch is no longer maintained, maintenance crews are sent to the stations to perform a variety of jobs and to cut back the ever-invading jungle. □

Author: Mr. Armbruster is a Panama Canal Commission hydrologist technician well qualified to speak on the subject of canal water control. He has spent 18 years operating and perfecting the system.



U.S. Army photo

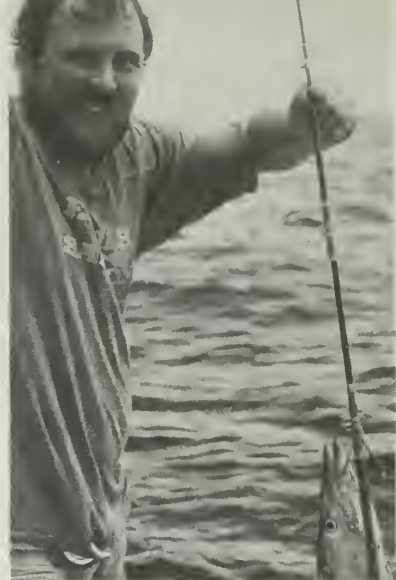


By Capt. Karen Bokor

Two ships pass through Miraflores Locks.

Explore Panama!

by Sgt. Alvan Beall



Photos by Sgt. Alvan Beall, III

Fisherman and 35-pound Wahoo.

The word Panamá means “abundance of fish.” It should also mean “abundance of fun.” One of the most exciting ways to see this abundance of fish is to visit them in their habitat. And Panama is the place to do it, with both the Pacific and Atlantic oceans only 50 miles apart and the enormous Gatun Lake in between.

Water sports in Panama are year-round activities. Waterskiing, swimming, fishing, snorkelling and scuba diving can be enjoyed by all as the weather is always permitting—if you don’t mind a “little” rain now and then.

Since my wife and I arrived one year ago, we have had many opportunities to snorkel and scuba dive, including diving near the old Spanish fortress of Fort San Lorenzo on the Atlantic side, where old brass cannons can still be found underwater (we found one).

Or perhaps diving for shells appeals to you more. We spent a marvelous three-day weekend in October on a 21-foot boat in the Las Perlas Archipelago, 40 miles off the coast of Panama City in the Pacific. We made four dives and found all types of shells, from seven-inch sand dollars to conches, cowries, murexes and a myriad of other shells which included pearl-oysters. Unfortu-

nately, we found only pearl-less oysters.

I must say, though, that the highlight of the trip was not the 200 or so beautiful and diverse shells we collected, but rather the visits paid us by the natives—the fish. Our most thrilling visitors were two manta-rays which measured approximately 11 and 15 feet wide, respectively (although at the time they seemed MUCH larger). “The danger?” I hear someone ask. If they bump into you, you will definitely know it, because they weigh a ton or more, but they are not aggressive.

Does fresh-water diving appeal to you more? Then Gatun Lake is for you. The lake, at one time the largest man-made lake in the world, is full of exciting treasure, if you are a bottle collector. Consider the fact that since 1914 ships of all nations have been passing through the canal and that thirsty sailors have been throwing empty bottles of all types into the channel. Consider also that anyone lucky enough to find a “man bottle” could be paid up to \$150 for this one memento.

And if you don’t want to collect old bottles, you can do some “wreck” diving. There are a few ships that can be explored at the bottom of the lake. Or for

a truly eerie sight, visit the train that sits at the bottom of the lake. When the lake was filled more than 60 years ago, this train, complete with locomotive, was left on the tracks and is now sitting in about 60 feet of water, home to a few trout and attraction to many diving enthusiasts.

For the ultimate getaway, visit the San Blas Islands. This is a trip we have yet to make, but we’ve heard the same story from everyone—GO! The islands are an Indian reserve for the Cuna tribe, world renowned for their famous mola tapestries. The 200 or so islands offer the diver unlimited opportunities for exploring, hot, white sand beaches for landlubbers, and very colorful natives let everyone enjoy this isolated vacation spot.

You don’t have to be a diver to enjoy water sports in Panama. For shell collectors, a visit to some of the beaches west of Panama City, such as Rio Mar, Coronado, or the black sands of San Carlos, will permit you to collect shells of all sizes and every imaginable color. Or perhaps an outing to the island of Taboga sounds appealing. After an hour or so boat ride, the white, sandy beaches and lazy sea breezes make a pleasant getaway.

And shells, too. Behind the Hotel Taboga there are so many



Ruins of old Panama. Buccaneer Henry Morgan sacked the city in 1671.

shells in spots that you literally can't see the sand—but it's there, under three or four inches of shells.

Its inhabitants virtually eliminated during the Spanish conquest, the island was repopulated by Venezuelan and Nicaraguan slaves owned by Panamanian residents and freed by an edict of Charles V of Spain. Santa Rosa de Lima, the first saint in the Western Hemisphere, was conceived on Taboga Island, and it was at Taboga that Forty-Niners awaited ships which would transport them to California.

Shipwrecks for nondivers, you say? Sure, there are wrecks and easy to get to, also. One, in fact, is under the Bridge of the Americas (the only permanent structure across the canal) near the lighthouse, and only ten minutes from Panama City. At low tide, it is almost completely exposed. Remember—the tidal change on the Pacific side is 18 feet.

With all these fish around, I'll bet a few of you fishermen want to know what challenge there would be fishing in Panama. Sport fishing is a tremendous leisure-time activity. There are the relatively small fresh-water fish of Gatun Lake to the big sailfish out in the Pacific. One thing, though—be

nice to the dolphins, because they like to follow the boats. Maybe you can try feeding them by hand. It's been done before. Or the whales. Yep. *BIG* whales, too. But be careful, because out in the Las Perlas Archipelago there is an island with one house on it, a two-story concrete structure, and in this house is a complete 70-foot whale skeleton and nothing else. Very strange. Rumor is that the whales are still after the guys that did it. Hm-m-m-m . . .

On our trip out to Contadora in the Las Perlas, we trolled and caught a Wahoo. This is the popular name for a fish that puts up quite a struggle, jumping out of the water or zipping under the boat. The name comes from the excited cries of the fisherman and his friends as the fish, a 35-pounder in our case, is reeled in. The name could also be applied to the flavor—what a treat!

And for shellfish lovers—how does a garbage can full of oysters sound? There are zillions of oysters hanging on the walls of the French cut behind the Cocoli housing area. Not only are there oysters here, but red snapper, too. *BIG* red snapper. The only rule one must observe is that no scuba gear can be used if you use a speargun. But then, that's what makes it real sport—seeing who can hold

their breath longer: you, or the snapper. Well, enough of sport for awhile.

Along both coasts are remnants of the Spanish settlements that once existed here on the isthmus. On the Pacific side is Old Panama, about five miles east of downtown Panama City. This was the original Panama City, established in the 16th century by the Spaniards. The city was sacked in 1671 by the English pirate Henry Morgan, and the stone ruins are preserved today as a national park.

On the Atlantic side, there are two ruins where one can go and get a real feeling of what it was like to live 300 years ago. At Fort San Lorenzo, located at the mouth of the Chagres River—this river was tamed to create Gatun Lake—are many old bunkers and buildings and about 20 cannons in their original defensive positions. It is still possible to find artifacts in the waters off Fort San Lorenzo, including the cannon mentioned earlier, and an occasional gold coin. But don't hold your breath about finding gold—unless you are diving without tanks!

The other ruins are called Porto Bello, a sleepy village today on the water's edge, but in its heyday the most important Spanish settlement on the Atlantic side—for it was from here

that the looted Inca gold from Peru was transported to Spain, having been brought over from Panama City. Porto Bello was also the site for many years of world-famous trading fairs. The ruins are most easily reached by boat, and their isolation makes it very easy to let yourself wander back 300 years and imagine the splendor of times past.

For another treat, drive on past the town of Porto Bello to Isla Grande. Take a cayuco (Panamanian dugout canoe) to the far side of the island and now you can go diving for your own lobster dinner.

Abundance of fun was how I described Panama, and it doesn't all take place in the water or at the water's edge. For a brief respite from the steaming tropics, drive up the coast on the Pan-American Highway toward Costa Rica for about one and one-half hours and turn right at the signs to El Valle. Once you leave the coast it takes only 30 minutes to go the 17 miles to El Valle. You must, however, drive up and over the coastal mountains (4,000 feet—don't forget to look back for a great view of the coast) and then down into the picturesque little town of El Valle. But bring a sweater, because it gets relatively chilly at night. The best time to visit El Valle is Sunday morning when the Indian Market takes place.

When we went we spent Saturday night at the Hotel Campestre, seeing their "world-famous" golden frogs (tiny bright yellow frogs used for poison on arrows by the Indians) and their not-as-world-famous square trees (trees with naturally square trunks). We arrived at the market before 7 a.m. and there was already hustle and bustle everywhere. The Indians from all the surrounding hills come down to the market to sell their produce and wares. Some of the artwork seems to be unique to this market, like the painted calabash husks, one of which we bought. I mention this because

many of the tourist-type items sold in Panama City are made in Ecuador. After visiting the market, take a drive around town. Some of the very wealthy keep vacation homes here, and some of the gardens are quite exquisite. If you've got time, you may want to go looking for the hot springs and take a dip—so-o-o refreshing!

'Linda, don't step on the alligator!'

If one drives past the El Valle turnout and continues toward Costa Rica, it might be easy to forget you are in the tropics. There is a large cattle industry and this is where many of the crops (sugar, corn) are grown. About four hours from Panama City lies Chitre, the pottery capital of Panama. We arrived in the early afternoon and spent the evening relaxing and enjoying the night scenes at the city's main plaza. We spent the next morning shopping at the roadside shops, and now we have all the pottery we could ever use—and then some.

We have no personal experience past Chitre, but about four hours farther on toward Costa Rica lie the towns of Boquete and Volcan, described to me as the closest thing to Switzerland in Central America. They lie on the side of the Baru Volcano (at 11,000 feet, the highest point in Panama), and the homes and chalets are made even more beautiful with the thousands of flowers planted everywhere.

If you care to see real jungle, go west toward the Darien. This jungle is the only thing that lies in the way of completing the

Pan-American Highway. During the rainy season the gravel and dirt road often simply disappears. We drove approximately 60 miles toward Colombia last December—a trip that took nearly three hours. Perhaps it would have been a shorter drive, but I stopped in the middle of a river to wash the car. Well—why not? The road went through the river, and we walked across looking for the shallow spots first—only about eight inches deep with a rocky bottom. But despite the less-than-ideal road conditions, it is a beautiful area. The recently-completed Bayano Dam (1976) has created Bayano Lake, and its openness is in stark contrast to the dense jungle that surrounds it. This whole area is an Indian reserve, and the small, thatched hut villages we passed through probably haven't changed drastically in quite a long time. The principal means of transportation in this region are still the horse or mule and one's own feet.

What things are there to do closer to the military bases and Panama City? Well, Summit Gardens is about five miles from the entrance to Fort Clayton on the road to Colon. The arboretum and small zoo plus the enormous grounds offer a great way to spend an afternoon on a family picnic or simply wandering and exploring. One very interesting creature we have seen here is a little lizard that skitters across the top of the water. These little guys really move out, and literally walk across the water, not on lily pads or leaves—just water. But be aware that not all the creatures are in cages. While walking around one lily pond I called out casually to my wife, "Linda, don't step on the alligator." "Right," came the equally casual reply as she looked back at me. As she turned back around her heart probably skipped a beat when the five-foot cayman hopped into the pond and out of her way

about 12 feet in front of her. She believes me now!

All this time, and nothing has been mentioned about the canal. Well, it is definitely worth mentioning. The locks can be visited daily and they are truly one of the great engineering wonders of the world. Each lock is over 1,000 feet long and 110 feet wide. The largest of the great doors on the locks weighs over 700 tons. And for a ship to transit the canal takes an average of eight hours to travel the 50 miles across the isthmus, and will require approximately 52 million gallons of fresh water. Since there are about 40 transits each day, 365 days a year, that may tell you something of the rainy weather in Panama, because that is where all that water comes from. Every Wednesday there is a tourboat, *Fantasia del Mar*, which transits the canal, and from this vantage point one can truly appreciate the tremendous task finished in 1914. The nine-mile long Culebra Cut that caused so much heartache can also be viewed from above at Contractors Hill. With the vista point over 300 feet above the canal, the "Great Ditch" unveils itself below as the incredible accomplishment that it is.

It is also possible to see remnants of the work done by the French during the 1880s in their unsuccessful attempt to conquer the isthmus on both the Atlantic and, as already mentioned, the Pacific sides. And no trip to Panama would be complete without at least one trip on the Panama Railroad. It costs \$2.50 for a roundtrip in the un-airconditioned cars, but it is such a great way to see the lake and the countryside and, of course, the canal.

Do you like to shop? Do you like to shop even more when the prices are low? I would have arrived with an empty suitcase had I known so many bargains in clothing existed. And downtown Panama City is this bargain hunter's paradise. I knew some-

thing was right when my wife came home with a new pair of shoes, a blouse, a pair of shorts and a terry cloth blouse—and it all cost less than \$12! And I've found similar bargains for myself.

All the money you save on clothes, you can throw away at the gaming tables at the big hotels, because that is where the



Alvan and Linda Beall dive at Contadora.

casinos are. It is not a threat to Las Vegas, but it does offer you a painless way to lose your paycheck.

If you would rather save up your paychecks and see the world, you can start with Latin America. From Howard AFB you can catch a MAC flight to just about anywhere in Central America, South America, or the Caribbean.

We just got back from a 15-day trip to Peru, and we were able to spend so much time in Peru because the hop cost us just \$10 each. What a tremendous vacation, too! We visited Lima, Cuzco (ancient capital of the Inca Empire), Lake Titicaca—as the Peruvians explain it, Peru owns the Titi while Bolivia owns the rest. But definitely the highlight of all our adventures in Latin America so far was the day we spent at Machu Picchu—the lost city of the Incas. What a tremendous civilization it must have been to construct such a city on top of the mountains. Awe-inspiring indeed!

During our remaining two years here in Panama we are planning many other trips. We'll probably go up to Boquete and

Volcan and on into Costa Rica next summer. And of course we are going to take that ultimate getaway to the San Blas Islands. We hope soon to get our visas for Colombia and Ecuador so we can fly down for a day of shopping in both Bogota and Quito. These will be two separate trips, but the flights to both places go down and come back on the same day. We also hope to make trips—undoubtedly combined—to Brazil, Chile, Argentina, Uruguay, and Bolivia.

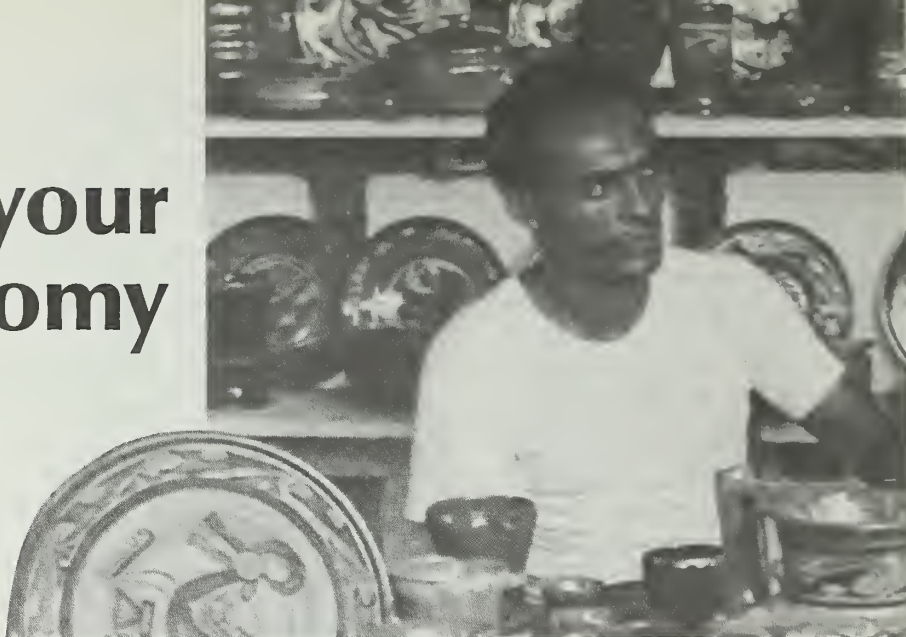
Now, how much does all this sunning and funning cost? Well, consider that I was an E-4 in the Army, and everything I've described to you is from personal experience (except, as I pointed out, Boquete and Volcan, and the San Blas Islands). So to say that sunning and funning is affordable here in Panama is an understatement.

There are so many things to do here—and I've only mentioned a few. I didn't mention the parks, like the one on top of Ancon Hill where the whole city and the Pacific entrance to the canal can be seen. Nor did I mention the museums, like the Museum of Panamanian Man, where one can learn of the 60 tribes that inhabited the isthmus before the Spaniards, and the three main tribes that survive today (the Cuna, the Choco in the jungles of the Darien, and the Guaymi near the Costa Rican border). I also failed to mention the churches, with the different architectural influences, or the gold-plated altar that Henry Morgan missed in 1671 when the fathers covered the gold with black paint. Or all the different types of coral we've collected along with our shells.

The more I write, the more I realize that there is so much to do I don't see how we're going to be able to get it all in within a scant three years. I guess we'll just have to plan to come back to Panama someday, and that prospect, let me assure you, is something to look forward to. □

Support your local economy

by Susie Waldman



Welcome to Panama! Now that your bags are unpacked and your house is in order, you are ready to explore. Panama is known as the Crossroads of the World because of the canal. The same can also be said about its shopping.

There are many wonderful things you can shop for here. I do my best to contribute to the local economy. The only things you need now are comfortable shoes and your purse containing three essential things: your wallet for cash, your major credit cards and your checkbook. That's all painless, so let's begin.

One of the first things you will want to look at will be the linens, such as the tablecloths you may have seen on your hostesses' tables since your arrival on the isthmus. That's no problem! We will start out by going to Avenida Central, J Street and Fourth of July Avenue. We will park our car near Gorgas Hospital. (You can park downtown, but why pay a parking meter fee when you can park here free?)

Another thing you are probably worried about is being able to converse. Don't worry about that. The majority of the shops have employees who speak English as well as Spanish. I try with

my Spanish, then they always get someone who speaks English—that probably tells you something about my Spanish (plus the fact that my own son and husband tell me I have a rotten accent). Believe me, that hasn't deterred me from my course!

So on to shopping! As we approach Fourth of July Avenue, you will see two landmarks to get us back to our car. They are the Ancon Inn, a bar, and Gran Morrisons which is the equivalent of the local Five and Dime store (although upstairs they offer an excellent book section in both English and Spanish). There are others in the city, as well, which offer more variety, depending on your location in town.

On we go! After crossing the street, we will first go left and start with the stores here. We have Arte Hindu that sells your basic tourist-type things: T-shirts with Panama on them, a few linens, furniture such as screens and a few chests and tables from Taiwan. From there we will proceed to a place called Jhangimals, which has excellent tablecloths, ivory and jade carvings, perfumes, colognes, blouses and shirts, plus a whole basement of oriental furnishings.

Leaving Jhangimals, we pass a small dress shop with beautiful dresses, blouses and other items of clothing made in Guatemala. (Sorry, I can't remember the name, but you can't miss it.) We will pass a few more stores and cross a small side street, and if you walk to the end of this street you will find a fantastic bakery. I'll tell you about that later on. Our next stop is at the Linen House, which features hand-stitched tablecloths from China (like most of the other stores), plus woven tablecloths from Guatemala and potholders that look like chickens. The potholders cost around \$1.50, and the tablecloths, which include eight to 12 matching napkins, run up from \$10, averaging \$20 to \$40. All tablecloths come in a variety of patterns and fabrics—embroidered, applique, crocheted and combinations.

After Linen House, we are going to walk back and go to the other shops. One of my favorites is Casa Hong Kong. Here, they have linens on tables and you can buy items such as tea towels, bunwarmers, aprons from 50 cents to \$4 or \$5. They also have brasswear, straw handbags, men's guayaberas (a must for your husband) and beautiful ladies' blouses, handstitched,

from China and Taiwan. (My husband owns several guayaberas, as does my son. In the tropics a suit is seldom worn, and the guayaberas dress up a pair of slacks. They can be found in plain or fancy styles long or short sleeved. The choice is yours.)

Next we will venture down Central. There we will find more shops with names hard to remember but with great bargains to be found. Solomon's, an easy one to remember, has fantastic things: brass trays, Persian rugs, rataan; screens, jade, plus much, much more. The furniture runs from under \$100 to the thousands, depending on what you are looking for.

Another thing you will find in this area will be fabric shops. Fabric can be bought from all over the world and range from under \$1 up. Again, it is a buyer's market.

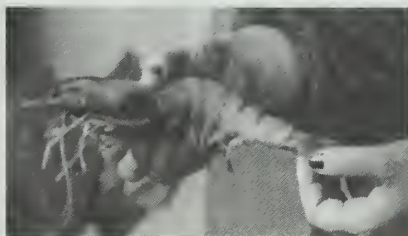
Now, this is where I need to stop and tell you to bargain in all of these stores. Most shopkeepers will lower prices on items. What you pay depends on how badly you want it and how much he wants to sell it. Shop around; a lot of the stores carry the same merchandise, but prices do vary. You will also have to get used to times to shop. Most shops open about 9 a.m. and close about 12:30 (noon). That takes getting used to. They open again about 2 or 2:30 p.m. (after their siesta).

Now we are going to street corner shop for the local baskets, hats, molas, sandals, T-shirts, rocking chairs and masks. Molas are made by the San Blas Indians and are handstitched pictures with various layers of cloth. Traditional ones have a story behind them, and then there are the modern ones. Prices vary, so bargain. Rocking chairs are leather and cane; prices are \$45 to \$90. Sandals are priced up to \$5.

I haven't even mentioned china, crystal, and silver. In this department, I can tell you there is a place you must go and that's the French Bazaar in Colon. It is a place in which you can spend

hours and money. There are some good buys here. If you don't believe me, ask my husband—he's paid the bills! It's worth the drive or, better yet, take the train; the bazaar is across the street from the train station.

Next, we're going to tour the market and supermarkets. A must is the market. The best time to do this is early morning when everything is at its fresh-



A sample Panama shrimp.

est. My first experience of the market was 5 a.m. I went with a friend. We parked near the market and walked down with our shopping bags—a must to have. I soon found the gorgeous shrimp and lobster, starting from \$1.50 to \$5 a pound. I was in heaven here! Next we went to the fish stalls, complete with fresh corbina, mackerel, snapper, squid, clams and mussels. Prices vary from 40 cents to \$1 per pound. Your next stop here will be vegetables and fruit. Tomatoes, bananas, pineapples, local chote, plantains, oranges, limes, lemons, lettuce, peppers, cucumbers, dried beans and rice, plus many more. Your average trip to the market will probably be in the \$20 range, but where can you buy shrimp, plus all your vegetables for the week, plus your fish for that price?

On your way home, your next stop will be at the bakery of your choice where you will purchase meechas, a roll-like French bread, for 5 cents per piece; empanadas, which are meat-filled turnovers; plus various sweets to take home and enjoy with your coffee. We enjoy good coffee, and Panamanian coffee is fantastic!

Which brings us to the supermarkets where you buy

coffee, sugar and other items. You'll find that American products are high, but other things will be cheaper. This holds true with everything here. Another thing you'll find is that local beef is very good and quite inexpensive. We have found a very good butcher and you will, too.

The next thing you will want to explore are the various restaurants here; there is much to choose from, depending on what you are interested in trying.

There is a vast choice of gourmet delights awaiting you. Choose from Peruvian, Chinese, Argentinean, Cuban, French, German and much, much more. Some of the ones we've tried have been La Pampa, Lung Fungs, Sardi's, Napoli, Brisas del Mar, Las Rejas, El Pez de Oro and Club Panamar, to name a few. All have specialties, and I have never had anything I didn't truly enjoy. Another must is a visit to one of the larger hotels, with its Panamanian Typico evening. You'll enjoy a beautiful buffet with all local dishes, plus watching the Pollera dancing and music.

After dinner, your next stop will be the casinos. There you can play slots to blackjack—a fun way to end an enjoyable evening.

Now that you've had a good night's sleep, you are ready to shop again. We are now going to the pawn shops. Yes, you read right—pawn shopping. There are some real bargains here. Pawn shops can be found mostly in the old section of town. Some take credit cards, checks and, yes, even lay-aways. So you see, there is great shopping to be found here, and I haven't even covered half of it.

There are two things my husband will tell you about my shopping: he's putting me in for professional status, plus he says he is adding a new event to the Olympics. He's sure I'd have a chance for the gold. And you know, I think I could do it! So if you come to Panama, look me up. I'll be glad to show you one of my favorite pastimes! □

By Li. Col. John Bokor (Ret.)



Capt. George Schaidler, Resource Management Office, shops for wood carvings in Ecuador.

By Mrs. Stephanie Schaidler

Blues attack? Hop a MAC

by 1st Lt. Stephen C. Donehoo



Ceremonial dancer at Viejo ruins.

By 1st Lt. Stephen Donehoo

Panama, a crossroad of travel, serves as the gateway to Latin America. More than 30 airlines travel through Panama on their way to Europe, the U.S. and more than twenty countries in Central and South America. The real bonus for servicemembers stationed in Panama is the quality service offered by the famous U.S. airline, Military Airlift Command (MAC). Based at Howard Air Force Base near Panama City, MAC aircraft, operated by National Guard and Reserve members, fly to most Latin American countries and back and forth to the U.S. The kicker is that flights on MAC cost servicemembers only \$10 (and that is usually round trip).

With leave papers, passport and visa in hand, I recently signed up for one of the weekly flights to Bogotá, Colombia, for a one-day trip. The C-130's phenomenal accommodations (jump seat and cold, dry sandwiches) helped psyche me up for the four-hour shopping spree in Bogota. Once we landed, I rushed to a taxi and we drove to the center of town. After visiting at least 20 jewelry stores, I found the right pair of emerald earrings (approximately one carat

each) for my wife's birthday. Into another cab, and off to the nearest grocery store for three cases (the legal limit) of great tasting Colombian coffee while the cab waits. Then the mad dash back to the airport in hopes the four hours have not run out.

All MAC trips don't have to be so quick, though. Two years ago on a long weekend, my wife and I "snuck off" on the MAC Capital Run that went from Panama to Lima, Peru; to Asuncion, Paraguay; to Montevideo, Uruguay, then back through Panama. We got off in Lima and spent three days sightseeing and shopping for woodcarvings, alpaca rugs, and silver jewelry. More recently, I travelled via MAC for a weekend hop to Saint Croix in the Virgin Islands. Just long enough to check out the scuba diving and buy some T-shirts.

One of the favorite ways for spending hard-earned leave in Panama is to fly with Uncle Sam. Even if you are only going home on leave, MAC's reserve flights rotate from stateside bases every two weeks, and the money you can save will astound you. Flying MAC is a benny you can really take advantage of when stationed in Panama. □

Take a tropical paradise with an undeveloped road network. Add dependably good weather most of the year. Throw in a wide variety of outdoor activities such as skin diving, fishing, swimming and hunting, and sprinkle with a goodly number of airports. You now have the makings for a pilot's dream and, not just incidentally, a description of flying in the Republic of Panama.

In contrast to much of the rest of the world, flying in Panama is relatively unfettered by the bureaucratic regulations which seem designed to ground the private pilot. In large part these happy circumstances reflect the fact that much of the country can be reached conveniently only by light aircraft. Such regulation as there is is provided by the Federal Aviation Administration (currently phasing out) and the DAC (the Panamanian equivalent of the FAA) which seem to be dedicated to helping, not hindering, the individual pilot. A case in point is the radar advisory service in the Panama City area, the only area in the country with significant aerial traffic density, which may very well be unique. It provides a courteous, competent and most reassuring separation of the various classes of aviation. This perfection is marred, however, by the high cost of flying in Panama. Panamanian pilots pay approximately \$2.30 a gallon for aviation gasoline, high-lead at that. Well, perhaps every Eden must have its snake.

Every airport in Panama can be reached by light plane from Panama City within two hours' flying time, which gives plenty of opportunity to enjoy the attractions of each area and be home for supper that night. The Darien offers unspoiled jungle with a wide variety of exotic animal life. This is the home of the Choco Indians who live isolated in very small groups as their ancestors have done for centuries. The Comarca of San Blas, along the northwest coast of the country, is the land of the Cuna Indian and of the mola, the Indian embroidery beloved of the tourist. These friendly folk welcome visitors, and if the visitor buys their handicraft, so much warmer the welcome.

The scenery here is strictly Hollywood south seas, with lush jungle on the mainland contrasted with the islands, where the Indians live, which are packed with coconut palms and thatched huts. The kaleidoscopic shading of colors in the water here can best be enjoyed from the air.

A small archipelago to the south of Panama City is another area of interest available conveniently only by air. The best

Fly the Panama skies

known of these islands is Contadora, remembered as the refuge of the late Shah of Iran, which purveys luxury accommodations to those who can afford them.

A personal favorite is the area known as Punta Cocos on the southernmost tip of Isla del Rey, the largest island of the group. The flyer is welcomed by a 4,000 foot paved runway left over from World War II. Picnicking, shell collecting, and oystering are great here. The swimming is enjoyable in the unusually (for Panama) cool water nearby, if one doesn't object to having a more-than-occasional shark as a companion. The owner, an expatriate American, allows visitors. A gift of shotgun shells to the Panamanian caretaker ensures a warm welcome.

For those who believe that the best flying is "sin motor," there is also a soaring club, the Planeadores de Panama. The Panamanian dry season, January to mid-April, is the season for thermals which rival those of Piedmont, Virginia—not great, but more than adequate. Panama City generates enough hot air (it is, after all, the capital of the country) to keep a sailplane up almost any day of the year, however. And the great number and variety of soaring birds make excellent "thermal sniffers." Sunday is the normal soaring day. The glider is towed from a small airport in downtown Panama City to another large WW II airfield about 15 miles north of the city where training activities and general soaring take place. The flight in the afternoon usually affords a touch of fairly good soaring over the city itself. Soaring with the frigate birds 5,000 feet above the city is a real thrill. The future of this club is, unfortunately, a bit problematical because the founder and moving spirit is retiring to the United States this summer.

The material presented above summarizes three years' flying experience in the Republic of Panama, all of it very pleasant. With any luck, the coming years will provide many more Panamanian aerial adventures. □

The author of this article wishes to remain anonymous.

Panamanian personalities

by Oleta B. Tinnin



Lt. Col. Brunson in his role as an MC.

The 470th Military Intelligence Group consists of 113 members, divided into ten sections: Section 1-4, Detachments A-E and the Liaison Detachment. Group headquarters is Building 220, Fort Clayton. Some personnel anecdotes will give you an idea of the type of people with whom you will be working if you decide to join us here in Panama:

Lt. Col. Jack L. Brunson, who once played the stage manager in the dramatic production "Our Town," now manages the 470th as its commander. However, since his arrival on the isthmus in July 1979 he, his wife Natalie and their daughters Alanna and Theresa have all been "managed" by a little bit of fluff called Nicholas von Brunson, a miniature schnauzer who sports loads of prize ribbons and looks eagerly forward to receiving more of them after his move Stateside in June.

Born Christmas Eve in 1978 (hence his first name), Nicholas is the son of Connie's April, owned by 470th intelligence assistant, Mrs. Jean Armbruster. When Brunson came to Panama on TDY in February of 1979, he made the mistake of mentioning the word "dog" at a 470th luncheon given in his honor, and Mrs. Armbruster just as quickly mentioned Nicholas. Brunson contracted for the puppy, sight unseen, and plunked down hard cash for him prior to the end of his TDY tour. Nicholas remained in his

mother's care until July of that year when the Brunson family PCSed to Panama and took Nicholas on as lord and master of the entire Brunson establishment, where he reigns supreme to this day.

Mrs. Armbruster then proceeded to resign from the 470th to accompany her husband Ed to Utah where he planned to enter the construction field. The 470th gave her a gala despedida (going-away party) aboard the tourboat Las Cruces, lavished her with going-away gifts, hosted numerous luncheons in her honor and bid her a tearful farewell. Whereupon, two months later, she reappeared suddenly and wanted us to take her back! (Ed had decided to return to his job with the Panama Canal Company—now the Panama Canal Commission—to take advantage of the early retirement clause in the Panama Canal Treaties, and Jean had decided to come back with him and take advantage of our good nature!) So Jean is once more installed in the intelligence assistant desk in the S-3 Section, and (what do you want to bet?) when she leaves again upon Ed's retirement, she will expect us to do it all over again!

Sgt. Maj. Marcus R. Lovensheimer made his first appearance at the 470th back in 1977 as a mere master sergeant, but quickly worked his way into the spirit of things as he announced to all, "Soy un alumno de Espanol." Things began looking up immediately, and he moved

quickly into the S-3 Section (then the All Source Center) as the NCOIC of the section. Except for a hectic period in 1978, when he combined this job with that of acting sergeant major, he remained in the S-3 Section until last August when he was promoted. He then became sergeant major of the 470th to the delight of all his friends who decided to gloss over his renowned (infamous?) sense of humor. (One of his pranks was to padlock the assistant S-3's purse to the back of her chair. He then sent the key to the security manager who promptly locked it away and went off to lunch!) Lovensheimer's friends now concentrate on the really admirable qualities which led him to his current exalted state—not the least of which is his wife Flo, an efficient and dedicated friend of the 470th. In addition to her full-time job, Flo always manages somehow to find the time to bake and elaborately decorate cakes for unit celebrations.

Finally there is 1st Lt. Calvin D. Brumfield, 470th S-1. In addition to having the dubious distinction of being the junior officer in the group, he is a sports fanatic who received such a whack on the jaw during a game, he had to have his jaw wired shut. Brumfield so covered himself with glory as Mr. Vice during last year's Dining-In that the decision has been made to host another Dining-In this year to give him another shot at it. □

Paradise found

by 1st Lt. Stephen C. Donehoo

A weekend trip to the San Blas Islands, located on the northern coast of Panama in the Caribbean Sea, begins with a 30-minute transcontinental flight from Panama City aboard a rickety 10-seat airplane. After landing on the short strip at Porvenir Island, tourists are met by their Cuna Indian guide and loaded onto dugout wooden canoes called cayucos for transportation to other nearby islands.

Caribbean resort hotel accommodations on the Island of Nalunega feature surfside thatched-roof cottages with a choice of hammocks or ragtag mattresses for sleeping. The hotel charge of \$10 per person per day does include, however, three meals (with lobster for lunch each day) and the use of a cayuco, with chaffeur, for snorkelling or island hopping.

Facilities at the hotel reflect attempts to accommodate travelers used to Holiday Inn efficiency: the outhouse is located at the end of a 60-foot pier, and the shower consists of a 30-gallon drum with a plastic (cool-whip type) dipping bowl.

What the resort lacks in accommodations is more than compensated for by the beautiful scenery on these palm-covered islands. Activities of the weekend can vary from scuba diving to total relaxation (you guessed it—there are no telephones on the island!). Snorkeling around the 80-degree water often provides up to 100-foot visibility, with a beautiful view of tropical fish and water life of every kind. Coral reefs surrounding the islands are a playground for spear fishing, lobster and crab catching. The more ad-

vanced swimmers take their turn by snorkelling or diving into the myriad of sunken boats that have run aground in the shallow reefs. (And lubbers can spend their time walking among the crowded huts that inhabit the small (size of two football fields) islands.

In the Cuna Indian tribe, where the women smoke pipes and make the financial decisions, tourists can barter with tobacco or pay in U.S. dollars for wood carvings and handstitched molas.

The weekend trip into a paradise island is also a trip into a different culture. The tourists' eyes are opened, not only by the beautiful scenery and underwater marvels, but also by the existence of this completely-different way of life. □



A San Blas Island retreat complete with palm trees and thatched-roof cottages.

Panama

37 years on the isthmus

by James C. Gerhart



The 470th Military Intelligence Group derived from the 470th Counterintelligence Corps Detachment, constituted on July 12, 1944, as the successor of the Corps of Intelligence Police. It was activated July 31, 1944, in the Canal Zone.

Originally stationed at Quarry Heights, the unit moved to Fort Amador, Canal Zone, in 1958. On Sept. 14, 1964, the unit was redesignated the 470th MI Corps Group. Subordinate elements then included the 610th Intelligence Corps Detachment, Fort Gulick, Canal Zone, and the 471st Intelligence Corps Detachment, Fort Brooke, Puerto Rico, both of which were subsequently detached.

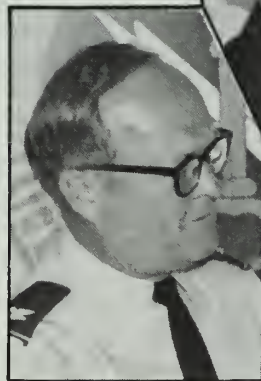
The group was redesignated the 470th MI Group Oct. 15, 1966. In July 1974, the Counterintelligence Investigations and Services Element became the Canal Zone Field Office of the 902nd MI Group, Fort Meade, Md.

On April 1, 1977, the 470th MI Group became a multidiscipline unit under the new concept for Army intelligence organizations when it integrated the U.S. Army Security Agency Detachment, Southern Command, and simultaneously reabsorbed the Canal Zone Field Office, 902nd MI Group. The Special Support Activity-Latin American Detachment, previously collocated with the group, was assigned Oct. 1, 1977, and activated effective Oct. 1, 1979.

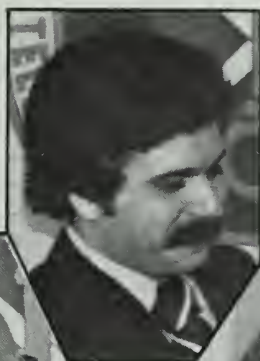
During September 1979, group headquarters moved from Fort Amador to Fort Clayton, Canal Zone. Terms of the 1977 Panama Canal Treaties provided that all major office facilities on Fort Amador be transferred to the Republic of Panama effective Oct. 1, 1979. Whereas Fort Amador became a military area of coordination under terms of the treaties, Fort Clayton was designated a U.S. Defense Site until the year 2000, after which no U.S. military forces, as presently constituted, are to be stationed in Panama. The date, Oct. 1, 1979, also marked the termination of the Canal Zone as a political entity, and the reversion of primary jurisdiction over the entire area to Panama.

The 470th has been commanded since June 1979 by Lt. Col. Jack L. Brunson. He will relinquish command in August for a Stateside assignment. □

Author: James C. Gerhart is historian of the 470th MI Group.



Col. Harold Yawberg



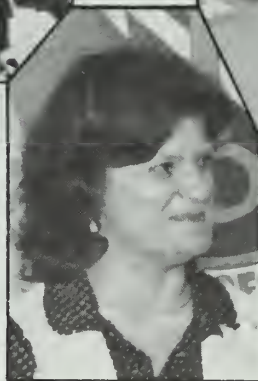
Ricky Sansalone



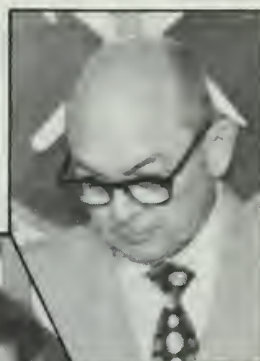
Raymond Keener



Sonja Addison



Betty Galvin



Loren Noland

Spirited INSCOM team honors its best

by Mary Ker

Military-Civilian Team Day was celebrated last month by INSCOM at Arlington Hall Station. Brig. Gen. John A. Smith, INSCOM's acting commander, presented awards to command members who stood above the rest in exemplary service throughout the year.

The Annual Wage Grade award was presented to Ricky Sansalone, Directorate of Facility Engineers at Arlington Hall Station. The award honors the wage grade employee, the "unsung hero," who is vital to the supportive role of the INSCOM mission.

Mrs. Betty Galvin, secretary in the U.S. Army Operational Group at Fort Meade, Md., was presented the Virginia McDill Award. This award honors the outstanding civilian secretary to recognize consistently high-quality performance.

The Albert W. Small Award, presented annually to a civilian member of INSCOM to recognize contributions which have direct bearing on the INSCOM mission, was presented to Raymond Keener, Office of the Deputy Chief of Staff for Resource Management.

The Military-Civilian Team Improvement

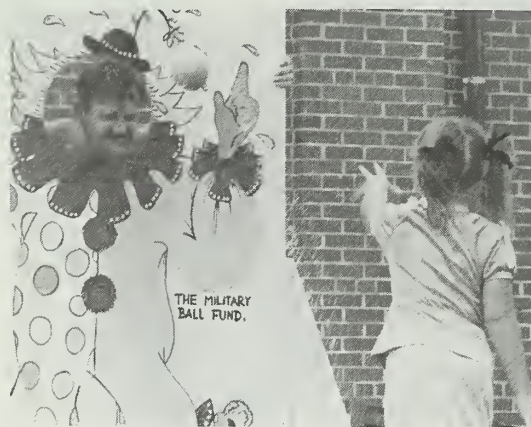
Awards normally honor two persons, one each military and civilian, who contributed most significantly to the improvement of the One Army/Military-Civilian Team concept within INSCOM. This year, however, only one award was presented—to Col. Harold D. Yawberg, INSCOM deputy chief of staff for logistics.

The Equal Employment Opportunity Award was presented to Ms. Sonja Addison, Office of the Deputy Chief of Staff for Logistics at Vint Hall Farms Station. The EEO Award honors the person who has achieved outstanding results in extending equal opportunities to civilian men and women of INSCOM through unusually effective leadership, skill, imagination, innovation and perseverance.

The Action Officer of the Year Award was presented to Loren Noland, Assistant Deputy Chief of Staff, Operational Security Office, Fort Meade. The award honors an outstanding civilian to recognize singular or significant performance achievements for which the nominee is primarily responsible.

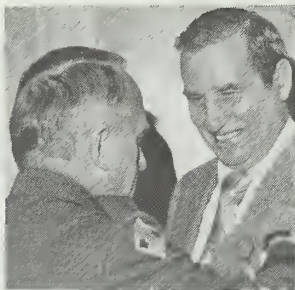
Evaluation and selection of award recipients were made by the INSCOM Incentive Awards Committee consisting of representatives of all INSCOM elements.

Make your picnic plans



That's the way to beat the heat!

Civilian honored by Army



Brig. Gen. Smith and Mr. Staffone.

With nearly 39 years of federal service behind him, Joseph G. Staffone retired last December as deputy to INSCOM's deputy chief of staff, resource management, at Fort George G. Meade, Md. On March 29, Staffone was honored in a ceremony at Fort Meade, during which he received his fourth Army Meritorious Civilian Service Award. Presented by Brig. Gen. John A. Smith, INSCOM's acting commander, the award is the second-highest honorary award granted by the Army secretary.

Staffone's federal career began in 1942 with the FBI. Military service interrupted his civilian career in 1943 when he was commissioned in the U.S. Navy. He resumed his civilian career after the war in the War Assets Administration. In 1948 he accepted employment as a fiscal accountant at the Counterintelligence Center at Fort Holabird, Md. Except for another tour of active duty with the Navy during the Korean conflict, Staffone served continuously with Army intelligence until his December retirement.

VINT HILL FARMS STATION, Va.—Now that the sun has chased winter chill away, folks here are busy cooking up the recipe for the biggest event this side of the Potomac—the 5th Annual INSCOM Picnic to take place here Saturday, Aug. 1.

The day's exciting line-up of events and entertainment will kick off when the rooster crows at 7 a.m. to announce the five- and 10-kilometer runs held annually.

The picnic itself will get underway at 11 a.m., offering a multitude of events planned for all INSCOMers, former ASAers, their families and friends.

A dazzling display of flashing bayonets will amaze spectators as the U.S. Army Drill Team gives its annual performance on the parade field, followed by the Old Guard Fife and Drum Corps show.

Country music will roll off the stage by the Officers Club as picnickers enjoy the square dancers as they whirl and twirl. Meanwhile, children of all ages will thrill to the antics of Ronald McDonald making his annual appearance with his bag of tricks.

Back by popular demand will be the Slide for Life where braver picnickers can coast to the ground from a wire suspended in midair. And if that's a little too much for some of the wee folks, there will be plenty of children's rides and games, as well as cartoons at the post theater.

The VHFS Morale Support Activity will again provide an all-time favorite—the Dunking Booth. Other displays and booths will abound to entertain INSCOMers of all ages.

Vint Hill's famous barbeque grill will be loaded with some of the best picnic food around, and folks can cool down with an icy beer or soft drink while they relax in the sun and fun of Vint Hill's country setting.

For the athletic-minded, there will be an assortment of sporting events, and everyone caught up in the heat of the day can plunge into one of two pools here for a refreshing splash-down.

There'll be something for everyone at the 5th Annual INSCOM Picnic which promises to be the best yet. So mark your calendars now for Saturday, Aug. 1, because you won't want to miss this year's picnic.

For more information, contact the VHFS DPTSEC, Commercial 703-347-6311 or Auto-von 249-6311.

'Hawg' wild at INSCOM

by Mary Ker

Above: Mr. Streufert and a small "hawg."
Right: Chainsaw hawg adorns his front lawn.

By Randy Streufert

Hog hobby helps study of wood

Wood carving has long been recognized as an art. Since early man, carving has also been a means of communication.

Hog production is not only an economic need for Mid-Westerners but also earns a merit badge for Boy Scouts.

Randy T. Streufert, of the Command Security Office at Arlington Hall Station, has combined the two in a hobby.

Streufert carves "hawgs" from small scraps of wood that he finds along rivers, in forests and anywhere else a tree might grow. He has about fifty hawgs in his collection, all carved in a different wood.

Streufert first started carving hawgs in 1976 while on a Boy Scout trip with his troop. One night he and some of the other leaders were thumbing through an old Scout book and came across a merit badge for hog production. The idea of hog production in the Washington D.C. suburb of Woodbridge, Va. brought a chuckle to the leaders and gave Streufert the idea to carve his first hawg out of pine. Since then he has carved many hawgs including the one in his front lawn that he did with his chain saw.

Streufert stressed throughout his interview with this reporter that he does not have a hawg fetish; his real interest lies in wood. He has carved turtles and birds but not to the extent that he has worked with hawgs.

There is a very big difference, according to Streufert, between pigs and hawgs. It has to do with the "maximum snout protrusion (MSP)." He says that a pig's snout is much longer and more slender than a hawg's, which has a shorter snout. He feels the MSP gives a hawg more character than a pig.

According to Streufert, the most difficult part of the hawg to carve is the snout unless the wood is very brittle. Then the legs and ears are difficult because they break off easily.

Streufert stresses that safety should be first in the mind of anyone who might decide they, too, would like a merit badge in hawg production. He stresses also that you should always carve away from your body and use sharp, nonrusted tools. Finally, he suggests you keep a good supply of bandages handy.

scrambler

66th MI Group, Munich, Germany

Leaders beware. There's a good soldier in your outfit going sour. He probably doesn't complain much, or ever question your orders. He has everything going for him and would make a fine career soldier if he reenlisted. But he'll be gone soon, and you'll never understand why he left.

Uncle Sam will spend many hours and many dollars trying to obtain soldiers like him and spend even more trying to keep him. But he won't stay. Still, he's everything you like in a soldier, the kind of guy you'd want in your foxhole when the going gets tough. But he won't be there.

He's a supply person, a cook, a journalist, a grunt—a soldier. He came to the service with a need, and because the service needed him. But the two have grown apart over the years. He's been pushed, angered, ordered and sometimes "Mickey-Moused" to the point of frustration. When he needed help, no one lent a hand. When he needed time off there was no time. He never heard your praise and he never asked for it. He never grumbled when you asked him to get the coffee or clean your rifle. Yes, he came to you eager and hardworking, but he'll leave tired, overworked and down on the military. Quite a few people won't sign up because of what he'll say. He won't even get the award he deserves, be-

cause you won't stand up for him.

All around him are the poor performers, rewarded with less to do, while soldiers like him end up pulling more than their share, because they're good. Secretly, your man is counting the days. He doesn't come to you because he doesn't know you care.

No one can explain it better than a soldier did in the **Village Voice**, an Army unit newspaper:

"I'm the person who goes into the orderly room and patiently waits while the first sergeant does everything but pay attention to me. I'm the person who goes into the supply room and stands quietly by while the supply sergeant and his assistant finish their little chit-chat. I'm the person who does not grumble while I clean rifles in addition to my own while other people wander aimlessly around. Yes, you might say I'm a pretty good person. But do you know who else I am? I AM THE PERSON WHO NEVER EXTENDS MY ENLISTMENT and it amuses me to see you spending many hours and dollars every year to get me back into your unit, when I was there in the first place and all you had to do to keep me was. . . . consider my needs as a human being, show me a little common courtesy, use me well, give me meaningful training and a meaningful job to do."

Vanguard

Vint Hill Farms Station,
Virginia

Now that you're feeling great from your exercise and running routine, how about running down to the Education Center to take a look around? With the help of the knowledgeable, experienced folks there, you'll find a class to suit your needs.

Whether you're a high school graduate or a college-degree holder, there's always some course you can take that will improve your knowledge in some area of interest or endeavor. You'll feel better knowing you're taking an active role in improving your education.

Perhaps you've always been an American History buff, or really want to go to business school someday. Maybe your interests are in military subjects. Whatever your preference or specific area of interest, the Ed Center can tailor an education plan to fit your individual needs and expand your horizons.

An education is still an important personal asset which will help you better your role in life. If you're a military careerist, your education will help you become not just a better soldier, but more prepared to face the civilian job market when you retire. Even if you're planning on getting out after this hitch, you'll want to get all the classes you can, to give you a headstart toward that degree you'd like to earn someday.

The Education Center has lists of every conceivable military correspondence course available, and can assist you in enrolling in as many as you like. You can complete these courses in your spare time without having to travel to a distant campus. Corre-

spondence courses will also buy you promotion points. In addition to these courses, the Ed Center administers various tests, including the BSEP, CLEP, Language Aptitude and GED tests.

Right here on post, the Northern Virginia Community College and the University of Virginia college systems offer courses in a variety of subjects each semester. Registration is as simple as walking into the Education Center, and the folks there will help you plan your curriculum and file any necessary paperwork. Courses from remedial English grammar to advanced law enforcement are available without leaving post.

Another advantage to improving your education is that it opens doors that were closed to you before. Many special military programs, like the warrant officer program for example, are open only to servicemembers with a certain level of formal education. Your education will also help you qualify for certain military schools, and will help you improve your general knowledge scores as well.

When you go before a promotion or soldier-of-the-month board, the board members will ask you about your education. Military and civilian courses will give you promotion points which could make the crucial difference between your being promoted out of the secondary or primary zone in your military occupational speciality.

Additionally, NCOs will find that their files are reviewed favorably for promotion to E7 and above when they have demonstrated a desire to improve their education and career potential.

How about taking a course in something you've always been fascinated with, just for fun? Ceramics classes, art appreciation, auto mechanics

(who wouldn't like to save a few bucks fixing his or her own car?), aerobic dance or deep sea diving might be just what you've longed to learn about.

Check with the Education Center to see what's available for you. All courses and tests are open to military personnel, and some courses are open to civilians.

—Sp5 Geneva Newberry

THE TORII TYPHOON

U. S. Army Field Station, Okinawa, Japan

You've all heard of the Eighth U.S. Army Wightman NCO Academy—Primary Leadership Course—at Camp Jackson, Korea. You've heard or perhaps asked questions, such as "what is PLC?" or "what is PLC like?"

The Academy's main purpose is to take a common soldier and convert him or her into a proficient, competent noncommissioned officer. The Primary Leadership Course is of great benefit to you if you plan on making the military your career as well as if you seek employment as a civilian.

Upon entering the Academy grounds you are in doubt and don't know exactly what to expect. You hear comments from other students such as, "I didn't want to come here, I was forced," or "I'm only here for 30 promotion points," and then someone, perhaps you, says, "I came here to make something of myself!"

This is the comment of a motivated soldier who has the initiative and desire to seek self improvement. Motivation and initiative are the name of

the game at PLC! Lack of motivation means lack of self-respect and pride. If you have no self-respect, how can you expect your subordinates to respect you? If you can't motivate yourself, do you really expect to motivate others?

To attend PLC, you must be physically and mentally prepared. The course is demanding. If you're used to "getting over," or just "getting by," your best bet would be to stay home. However, if you're interested in learning how to become a productive member of today's Army, then PLC will give you all the tools you need.

The Academy puts emphasis on demonstrated leadership potential and learning by doing. In addition to classes in leadership subjects such as counseling and the duties, responsibilities and authority of an NCO, you will have classes on general military subjects to include map reading and physical training.

The cadre members of the Academy are of the highest caliber. Their knowledge, experience and professionalism help you become a better leader. The cadre can't make you a leader; they do give you the guidance to amplify the potential you already possess, and the best part is that it's all free!

There is no question that cannot be answered. If you take the time to ask, the cadre members take the time to answer you. They have time for every soldier as an individual, but don't waste their time. You must be sincere. Don't take the time or space of someone who is sincere if you are not. The Academy can only accommodate a certain number of people at one time, so be sincere and live the motto of the Academy: "Enter to Learn, Leave to Lead!"

—Sgt. Michael E. Davila

scrambler

66th MI Group, Munich, Germany

Sgt. Adam is a crypto clerk with an American unit in Augsburg. If you were to ask his buddies they would say he is a good troop, hard-working and dependable. During his Army career he has won numerous honors. His record is spotless, with not so much as a letter of reprimand. But he is a target for SAEDA (Subversion and Espionage Directed against the U.S. Army) approach.

Adam came to Germany alone. His wife and children will join him as soon as housing becomes available. His days are filled with duties, but his nights were very lonely until he began visiting one of the local bars for a few drinks and a little conversation.

Adam soon became well acquainted with a couple of the regular customers and came to think of them as good friends. One night Adam's friends invited him home with them to listen to some new stereo equipment. They were joined later by two young women from the next apartment. The schnapps flowed freely and Adam finally passed out.

A few nights later Adam was again joined in the bar by his friends. This time the mood was serious. They needed information to which he as a crypto clerk could gain access. Adam flatly refused. Then one of his companions pulled out a series of snapshots showing Adam and one of the girls in some interesting and highly-compromising positions. He told Adam that those were not, of course, the only copies and that unless

Adam secured the information for them, prints would be sent to his wife and CO. If he cooperated he not only would get all copies and the negatives, but might even get a cash payment for his trouble. How should Sgt. Adam handle this situation?

If you find yourself in a position where you are being pressured into providing official military information—not in the line of duty—do not commit yourself on the spot. Above all, take no action on your own. As soon as you leave the persons, contact your unit security officer.

THE TORII TYPHOON

U. S. Army Field Station, Okinawa, Japan

The Military Affiliated Radio System, better known as MARS, can help you talk to the folks back home.

The Army Communications Command operates and maintains the MARS program for the Army. The primary mission of MARS is to provide emergency and disaster communications if needed.

MARS also helps soldiers save money on calls to the States. A three-minute call by commercial telephone from Okinawa costs from \$12.57 to over \$21, depending on the type of call. A three-minute MARS call usually costs only about \$2 to \$3 or the cost of a collect call from the West Coast.

Sgt. Jerry D. Carter of the Torii MARS Station says that it is really simple to make a MARS call. First, call the MARS Station and give the operator the area code and phone number you wish to

call, then your name and number. The operator will put you on a list. When your turn comes up, he will call you back and place the call for you.

The operator gets on the radio and raises a MARS operator in the States. The stateside operator places a collect call to the party you want to reach and explains to them that they are getting a MARS call.

When your call is put through you must remember that the call is going by radio and that you can transmit or receive in only one direction at a time. So, to signal the operator when to switch, you must say when you are finished speaking. The operators at both ends will switch, and the party at the other end will be able to speak.

When you have 30 seconds left, the operator will let you know, and you have just about enough time to say your goodbyes.

Carter says it's a good idea to make a few notes beforehand. Calls are limited to three minutes and notes will help you remember the things you want to talk about.

The MARS system is available to the entire military community on Okinawa. There are booths available in the Torii MARS Station for those who do not have access to a military telephone.

There are two Army-operated MARS facilities in Okinawa. One is located on Torii next to the mailroom.

The other station is located in the Camp Butler Foster area behind the Globe and Anchor Club.

Hours of operation are from 7:30 a.m. to 3 p.m. Monday through Friday. Carter says the best times to call are between 8 a.m. and 9:30 a.m. or between noon and 1:30 p.m.

—Liston Matthews

While visiting Korea recently, I encouraged members of the INSCOM family stationed atop the DMZ to level with me and tell me just how it is. Their responses:

"The biggest problem up here is getting bored. We do everything we can to keep ourselves occupied. That's why we have the pool table. Yongson sends movies out to us that they show in their theaters. We get them for free. Have to run the projector ourselves, but that is a very big relief to see a movie every now and then."

"I think it would be nice if the people on the sites could have commissary privileges. It means we could buy little necessities like horse radish and other things that the mess hall doesn't send us. It would make life a little easier for us."

"First thing I have to say is that anybody that is assigned up here has to be somewhat of a loner. Our work schedule period is ten days on the mountain and five days off the mountain. You can't have anybody who has family problems or drinking problems or drug problems up here, and usually these kind of people are sorted out pretty soon and we get rid of them."

"I've been up here for a year and I enjoy it a lot. The food is good. This is the best site out of all three sites because you have a lot of hiking trails up here and opportunities to go rappelling. For somebody like me who likes lots of outdoor activities it's just great. Up here I'm the boss, literally. Down in the field station there was just too much of an eight-hour-a-day thing going on. People are really unmotivated for the most part. That changed as far as I was concerned when I got here because I set my own hours up here and it's loose, not tight. You don't have people breathing down your neck."

"We get good support through 501st MI group in Yongson and through Camp Humphrey, but most of our logistical support

Tell it to the chaplain

. . .and they did

by Chaplain (Col.) John J. Cuniffe

comes through Camp Casey, Second Infantry Division. They have coordinated with the 501st. We get our fuel from there and go over to their PX and Class VI for whatnots. For the most part they do a really good job of getting things taken care of for us. When we have a problem up here, like with our generators or our heating or anything like that, AFE, Col. Wistler's department down in Camp Casey, does an outstanding job for us. Off the top of my head I can't think of anything that they really could improve on."

"Morale is OK. My health is about thirty overweight. Safety depends upon the situation of our brothers to the north."

"Concerning health, we are really remote in our situation here, and if something should happen time is an important factor. We're in a good position here. We're only an hour away from the Detachment by road and if something really serious happens up here, we can call them any time 24 hours a day and they send a chopper up here and medivac the man off to the hospital. So as far as that goes, even though we are really a remote site we get really good support along those lines between ourselves and through the other various personnel at Camp Casey."

"This is only a year long tour in Korea, and most people by

the end of the year are just beginning to know their jobs. In my opinion, the tour should be extended to at least a year and a half, possibly two years, in certain technical fields."

"This is a hardship tour and only a one-year tour, but in our MOS they have started a command sponsorship and a limited command sponsorship for this specific MOS. INSCOM has allotted the money for this, so this way people, instead of only staying here a year and then going back with their families, will come over here. Granted, it's not much but at least it's a start, and they'll be here for two years."

"In a one-year tour, it takes you a while to get used to the job and then a little while to start to feel you understand the job. Then, just as you start to really get confident that you know the job, you're going to go back home and they'll put you in a unit like Fort Ord or Fort Lewis where you're not even going to use your skills. They send you out in the field and you practice field maneuvers, and your training really suffers over there. Whereas here, at least, you have everyday use. You use it every day on your job; you get to know it. That's the major problem—people leaving here, going back and not using skills. They are trying a good education program to keep it up. In my opinion, it's not succeeding too well."

Real estate: Learning the lingo

by Maj. Carl F. Meyer, Jr.

There may be nothing more confusing to a home-buying military member than trying to interpret "real estate language" of friendly professionals of that trade. As interest rates and mortgage payments rise, financing systems are created with names that tend to shortcut a real understanding of how they actually work. It is the purpose of this article to try to clear up some of the haze and mist surrounding property purchase lingo.

Agent is a popular and very general term used to describe a salesperson who has been licensed by a state to work for a real estate broker.

Broker is the holder of a state license authorizing him or her to conduct a real estate business, employ salespersons in that business and to negotiate transactions involving real property (land and physical improvements) for a fee.

Both the broker and the agent are technically known as "agent" because they act as representatives for clients.

Realtors are licensed brokers and agents who belong to the National Association of Realtors, a professional trade group organization.

All real estate professionals are subject to state laws, licensing requirements and disciplinary actions that can result in being expelled from practice for violating their strict code of ethics and rules. However, no criticism intended, it is always wise to remember that real estate professionals usually work strictly on commission. The

higher the price paid, the higher the commission earned.

Usually, it is the seller who hires the real estate professional and is responsible for paying the agent's fee. But an agent can also be useful to a buyer by showing properties that are available for sale and by giving information about the neighborhood, schools, public facilities, taxes and other matters pertinent to the evaluation of property and the individual or personal requirements of the buyer.

A person who wants to sell property through a real estate professional should be aware of the several ways available to list the property. Among the most popular are Exclusive Right To Sell, Exclusive Agency, and Open Listing.

An Exclusive Right to Sell is the one most often used and is the one most favorable to the real estate agent/broker. It provides that a commission will be due the listing broker whether he or someone else sells the property. This means that even if the seller sells his own property during the term of the agreement, without the aid of the agent/broker, the real estate firm still must be paid the agreed-upon commission. Obviously, since the broker is assured of a profit from the sale of the property, he is likely to try harder to make a sale.

An Exclusive Agency is the same as the Exclusive Right to Sell except that no commission will be owed if the owner sells the property himself.

An agency other than the listing agency normally can sell the

property and the commission earned for the sale is divided between the real estate professionals at no additional cost to the seller. In this case, the selling agency notifies the listing agent who is present at the time the offer is made to the seller and who negotiates on behalf of the seller.

With an Open Listing the owner of property can list his property with several brokers at the same time and only the agency that makes the sale will earn the commission. No commission is owed if the owner sells the property without the aid of any agency.

Remember to read and understand the listing contract before signing it. Your legal assistance officer will be glad to offer explanation of any confusing terms. An owner could be obligated to pay a commission even if he should change his mind about selling or be unable to sell for any reason during the listing period. Although real estate professionals will seldom invoke this contract provision, it is enforceable and, for the seller's protection, should be stricken from the listing agreement.

Usually the term of a listing agreement runs from 30 to 120 days. The commission will be 3 to 7 percent. Both of these terms are negotiable.

One of the more helpful duties of a real estate professional is the arrangement of financing for the buyer. The best of terms for the seller is cash, meaning that the buyer pays for the property in full. Few buyers are able to accumulate sufficient funds to purchase for cash.

A conventional loan is a form of financing in which a single lender loans the purchaser money to buy property. Guarantee systems such as VA and FHA are variations of this method.

A take-back mortgage is financing in which the seller accepts a mortgage from the buyer for a portion of the purchase price. Usually these are used as part of the down payment when an original loan is assumed by a buyer. A take-back mortgage is usually short term, with a payment schedule involving small payments over a term of from three to seven years and a "balloon payment" (the balance all comes due at one time) as a final settlement of the debt. This can mean that the buyer will have to refinance when the final balloon payment is due or sell the property.

A second mortgage involves the assumption of a primary loan by the buyer and the negotiation of a second loan (usually for purchase money down payment) from a second source. The primary mortgage lender should be advised of the second financing as the payment on the second mortgage may affect the buyer's ability to meet payment obligations on the first mortgage. The second mortgage lender's interest is protected by a lien on the property that is subordinate, or secondary, to the primary lender's lien.

A builder or individual seller may offer a **subsidized interest rate**. The seller guarantees a mortgage interest rate lower than the market is offering, say 10 percent when the current rate is 14 percent. To complete a sale, the buyer obtains mortgage money at 14 percent, and the seller agrees to pay the difference in monthly payments between the 14 percent mortgage and a 10 percent mortgage for a short time, usually about two years. This arrangement is beneficial to a seller only if he can keep the selling price of his property high enough to make up for the payments. For the

buyer this provides a deferral of higher interest rates for the short period and an opportunity to refinance if the interest rates go down.

A current popular system is known as a **wraparound mortgage** in which a lender (sometimes the seller) takes responsibility for an existing mortgage and obtains additional financing to complete the pur-

title to the property until all payments are made or until some agreed-upon time in the future. The buyer has an advantage in this case in that he has no borrowing fees or dealings with money lenders except for the seller of the property. The major advantage in this case belongs to the seller. If the buyer fails for any reason to maintain payments in accordance with the

Legally speaking

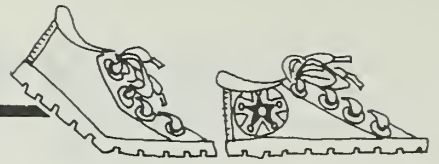
chase. The existing mortgage must be assumable. An example will best describe the transaction: A property sells for \$100,000, and the seller has an outstanding balance on his assumable mortgage loan of \$40,000. The buyer makes a down payment of \$20,000 and finds a lender who gives him a new wraparound mortgage that covers the old loan balance plus an additional \$40,000 (\$20,000 down plus \$40,000 old balance plus \$40,000 equals the \$100,000 selling price). The buyer makes payments to his lender for the wraparound mortgage, and the lender makes the payment on the old mortgage. The rate on the wraparound loan is higher than the rate on the old mortgage and the lender profits from the difference. Thus the lender of the wraparound mortgage can afford to offer a rate on the wraparound that is lower than the prevailing rate. Note that this arrangement may be difficult to obtain as the terms of existing mortgages may prevent it. Usually VA and FHA loans are susceptible to wraparound treatment. This is a situation in which the advice of a real estate agent or knowledgeable lender can be valuable.

A **contract for sale** or **land contract** or **contract for deed** is actually a sort of installment sale of land. The seller maintains the

contract, the seller still has legal title to the property.

As part of this arrangement, the buyer may agree to take over payment on the seller's existing mortgage. Often the payments are made to an escrow agent who distributes monies to the original mortgage lender and to the seller. The escrow agent holds the deed to the property and delivers it to the buyer when the agreed-upon amount has been paid in full. If a payment is missed, the seller simply sues to void the contract and the title, never having been transferred, results in the buyer having nothing to show for his payment except a voided contract. This type of sale requires a series of contract and escrow agreements so should never be negotiated without expert legal advice.

Obviously, this article is not intended to be complete or final advice with regard to arrangements dealing with property transactions. Every buyer-seller situation is unique in some fashion. A real estate professional can be of genuine service as can your legal assistance officer. A transaction of this nature should never be attempted without professional advice, together with a complete understanding of contractual obligations and financial considerations. Expert legal help is as near as your legal assistance office. Use it!



Safe at home plate, called by umpire Ray Semko in Vincenza, Italy.

You're crazy, Ump!

by Sp5 Robert A. Wood

If anyone in the 66th Military Intelligence Group has ever participated in the U.S. Army Europe Fast Pitch Softball Tournament held in Vicenza, Italy, he's probably yelled, booed and even threatened to kill the newest member of Detachment D. That's because he's an umpire.

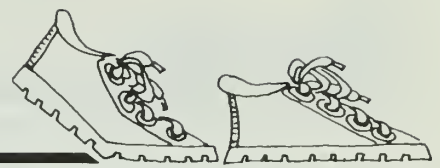
Ray Semko, from Pittsburgh, Pa., arrived at Det. D in December, bringing nine years of MI experience and four years of officiating experience with him.

Semko remembers how he got started in his years of officiating.

"I was sitting in the stands watching my first softball game in SETAF (Southern European Task Force). My friends were

having a good time and telling me how this is the thing to do during summer.

"As the game progressed, my buddies started picking on the umpire. I, too, started screaming at them because their judgments didn't agree with mine. Near the end of the game I thought I was really being hard on the officials since I had never officiated myself. I got up from my seat and went to the scorers' booth to talk with the man in charge. I told him that I'd like to volunteer to umpire if he needed help. I had always wanted to officiate but never had the opportunity. I had no experience but was willing to learn. We made an agreement: after two weeks I would be



critiqued, and if I was considered not to have officiating potential, I would quit," Semko continued.

He hasn't stopped since. A normal week sees Semko calling one sport or another at least five nights a week, with a minimum of two games each day. He doesn't just officiate softball. Baseball, flag and tackle football, basketball, volleyball and boxing are also his specialties.

"Out of all the sports I'm involved with, I enjoy officiating basketball the most," said Semko. "I'm USAREUR-qualified in all those sports except boxing, and it took a long time to pass tests in each sport and then be recommended by the sports director. Now that I'm qualified I can call high school, company, battalion, SETAF and USAREUR-level competition."

During all the years of his officiating, one would think Semko would have a certain call or experience that sticks out in his mind. But for Semko it's the contented feeling and pride of accomplishment that he has whenever he knows he's officiated at a sporting contest to the best of his ability. To him, that makes it all that more satisfying.

"I don't want to stop now. I've set a goal to progress enough to call division 1A ball in basketball and be selected to work softball on a major amateur softball association level, which means a lot of good breaks and at least six more years' experience and being in the right unit at the right time," Semko added.

Semko doesn't stop at officiating sports.

"I've been acting in recent musical and theatrical plays, and I'm also a disc jockey at the local club," said Semko.

He even finds time to coach the Milano-Manin Rhinos who,

according to Semko, are "an all-Italian team which plays American football under NCAA rules." But there is no language barrier between him and the players.

"I have four players on the team who speak English and they translate for me. The team doesn't know how much Italian I speak, so the players never talk behind my back or they'll be in some big trouble," Semko explained. After two years of coaching the team, he is satisfied with last year's record of four wins and four losses.

"Last year we played four American teams and lost all four. The first two were real massacres, but the last two we lost by not more than 12 points. We also played four Italian teams and won them all," he added.

Since 1978 Semko has been playing Santa Claus for the SETAF community during office parties and when visiting homes and certain ceremonies on post.

"I've always enjoyed making people laugh. When I play Santa, mothers have come up to me and said their kids really thought I was the real thing. The kids told their mothers the Santa they saw at the PX wasn't the real one, but I was and that makes me feel real good inside," Semko concluded.

And if that's not enough to keep any two people busy, Semko just finished singing with the "Starlighters," a local country band that played a benefit concert for a Vicenza orphanage which was recently robbed and vandalized.

For Semko and wife Nena, coming to Det. D from across the street where he worked for the G-2 of SETAF means three more years of sunny Italy and three years of officiating and playing Santa Claus, as well as enjoying his many other hobbies and interests.



Winner McKinney

ITAC runner triumphs in 20-mile run

FORT BRAGG, N.C.—Dewayne McKinney, noncommissioned officer in charge of the Intelligence and Threat Analysis Center's General Intelligence Production Division library, won the 12th Annual John F. Kennedy Center's 20-mile Longstreet Race held here recently.

Of the 427 runners who turned out at Fort Bragg's Holland Drop Zone to compete in the Longstreet Race, only 362 of the runners were able to finish it. Lt. Gen. Thomas Tackaberry, Commander, 18th Airborne



Corps and Fort Bragg, fired the starting gun at noon, sending the runners on the hilly and grueling course.

McKinney edged out three-time Longstreet winner, Marlin Conrad of the 82nd Finance Company, as well as Lonnie Poole of the 8th Psychological Operations Battalion. McKinney's time was 1:53:01. Conrad and Poole placed second and third, respectively.

The Longstreet Race was McKinney's first of the season. His goal is to win a spot on the All-Army Marathon Team.

The 470th's "Big Blue." Front row, from left, Rick Davilla, Jesus Otero, Guillermo Alcover, Carlos Borden, Ron Wheeler, Oscar Verdejo. Back row, from left, Juan Enriquez, Segismundo Pagan, Ray Baugh, Ismael Falcon, Emilio Silva-Cruz, Gary Veazey and Jose Gonzalez.



By Clara Pagan

'Big Blue' batters opposition

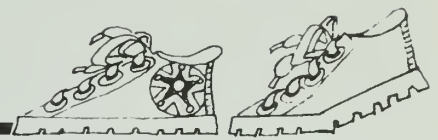
The 1981 Charger Battalion softball season at Fort Clayton, Panama, wound to a close last month with a double-elimination tournament. The **Journal's** press deadline preceded the tourney, but it was expected to end in a showdown between the 470th Military Intelligence Group's "A" and "B" teams. What's that? Two championship-caliber teams from the same group? That's right. But let's take a closer look at how that came about.

At the beginning of the season, the 470th's "Big Blue" was a 24-member team. There were also 10 other members of the unit who wanted to play. But in a game that only allows 10 members to start, it seemed that many of the 24 members would not see much action. To sum it up, the 470th's Big Blue was just too great for the league they

were competing in. So, after a 29-6 shellacking over the 590th Transportation Battalion and a lopsided 22-0 victory over MEDDAC "B," it became evident that unless something was done quickly, the league was becoming too easy and lacking competition for Big Blue. After nine straight victories, six members of the original team "defected," picked up the remaining men in the unit and formed the 470th's "B" team. Before we go any further, let's meet the 470th Big Blue "A" team.

Under the direction of player/coach Ismael Falcon, Big Blue refused to be intimidated by team division. Instead, the 12-man team toughened up and extended its winning streak to 15 games. On March 17 the 470th took to the field against the 114th Aviation team. Jesus Otero opened the game with a single,

by Sgt. Ronald G. Wheeler and Ron Wheeler followed with his third home run of the season. Carlos Borden followed Wheeler with a solo shot, and it looked as if Big Blue was well on the way to another lopsided victory. With the score 3-1 in the bottom of the fourth, the 114th rallied for six runs to take the lead 7-3. In the last inning, the 470th seemed on the verge of losing its first game. Trailing 7-4 with two outs and no runners on base, Big Blue bats came alive. Wheeler ripped a single to center, Borden and Falcon followed with consecutive ground-rule doubles, and suddenly the score was 7-6. Rick Davilla, one of the two senior citizen players on the team, followed with a single, knotting the score at 7-7. Juan Enriquez sent a shot to the left field fence, with pinch runner Wayne Hazzard scoring from first. The Big Blue winning



streak was intact. In five quick strokes of the bat, Big Blue won 9-7. The following day, Big Blue returned to regular form with an 8-1 victory over MEDDAC "A." The game was highlighted by the brilliant defensive performances of shortstop Falcon and right fielder Segismundo Pagan. Falcon threw out 13 batters from shortstop, while Pagan prevented a would-be grand slam and two-run double with two fantastic catches.

Big Blue next faced their rivals, the 470th "B" team. After two close innings, Big Blue came alive, scoring six runs in the fourth inning. The 470th "B" team was never in the game, losing 11-8. Wheeler again led Big Blue's attack with two two-run homers. Denny Morris added a solo shot for the 470th "B" team. The 470th "A" team then closed out their perfect regular season with victories over USACC "B" and MEDDAC "B" 4-0 and 15-5, respectively. Rick Davilla hurled a three-hitter for Big Blue against USACC "B" allowing no runners past third base. The starting pitcher for Big Blue was Ray Baugh, the other senior citizen on the team. Combined with Davilla, they neutralized the opposition.

Just to give you an idea of how awesome the Big Blue bat attack is, they have outscored their opponents by a total score of 194-77.



By SFC James H. Dean

Les Hardgraves, British 3rd Intelligence and Security Co., can't bear to look. Other bowlers are Ian Sortoris, 3rd I&S Co., and John Hall of the 766th.

AHS women win

by Mary Ker

The Arlington Hall Station Women's Soccer team, formerly the "Blues," now "Carl's Locker Room," started the spring season by winning two straight games.

In the first game "Carl's Locker Room" beat the "Harvey's," another team in the Arlington County Women's Soccer League Red Division, 7-1.

Mary Ker, left wing, scored the first goal 35 seconds into the game. Ker scored two more goals in the game to give the team their first "hat trick" of the season. Mary Marsh, inner forward, and Terry Wideman, center half, each scored two goals.

In the second game of the

season, "Carl's Locker Room" went up against the "Thunder-thighs" in a tough matchup. With concerted effort and determination, the "Locker Room" held on to win the contest 3-2.

Marsh scored two goals in the game and Kim Gratop, left wing, scored one goal.

The team has several new players who will help to give the team strength and power to last throughout the entire game.

"Carl's Locker Room" also has a new coach, Dick White, who will assist Coach Dan Tindall in teaching the much-needed technical skills.

The entire team did an outstanding job in both games and is looking forward to continued success in league play.

766th bowls with British in Berlin

by SFC James Dean

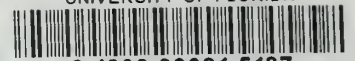
The 766th Military Intelligence Detachment hosted an afternoon of bowling with members of the British 3rd Intelligence and Security Company in West Berlin. The event, organized by John

Hall of the 766th, took place at the U.S. Forces Sports Center and Bowling Lanes in February.

Some 30 persons participated in the event. Four-member teams were composed of two members each from the 766th and the 3rd I&S Co.

High bowler of the day was CWO 3 Howard Makynen of the 766th, with scores of 194 and 190. While the rest of the bowlers didn't come close to Makynen's scores, they did appreciate the day's activities and the opportunity to socialize with their British counterparts.

After the bowling, the group moved to the dayroom of the 766th to relax and enjoy a buffet dinner.



FLARE

The 470th in Panama

